MAY 1994

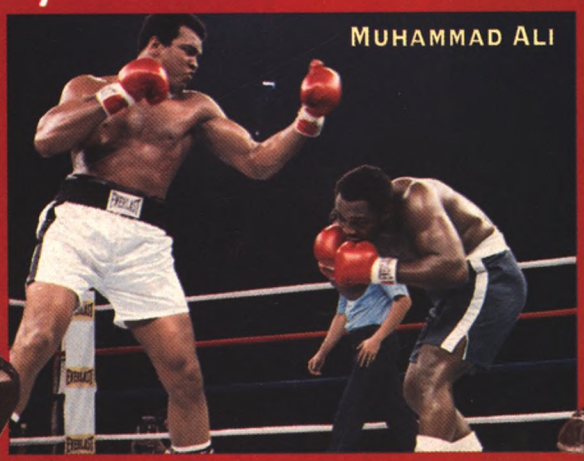
AGE SPECIAL!

# The RING®

"THE BIBLE OF BOXING"®

SUGAR RAY ROBINSON

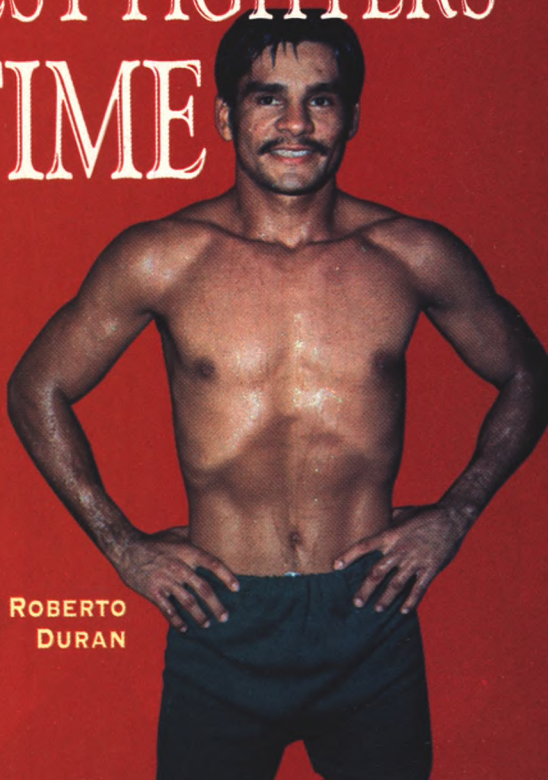
Division-By-Division



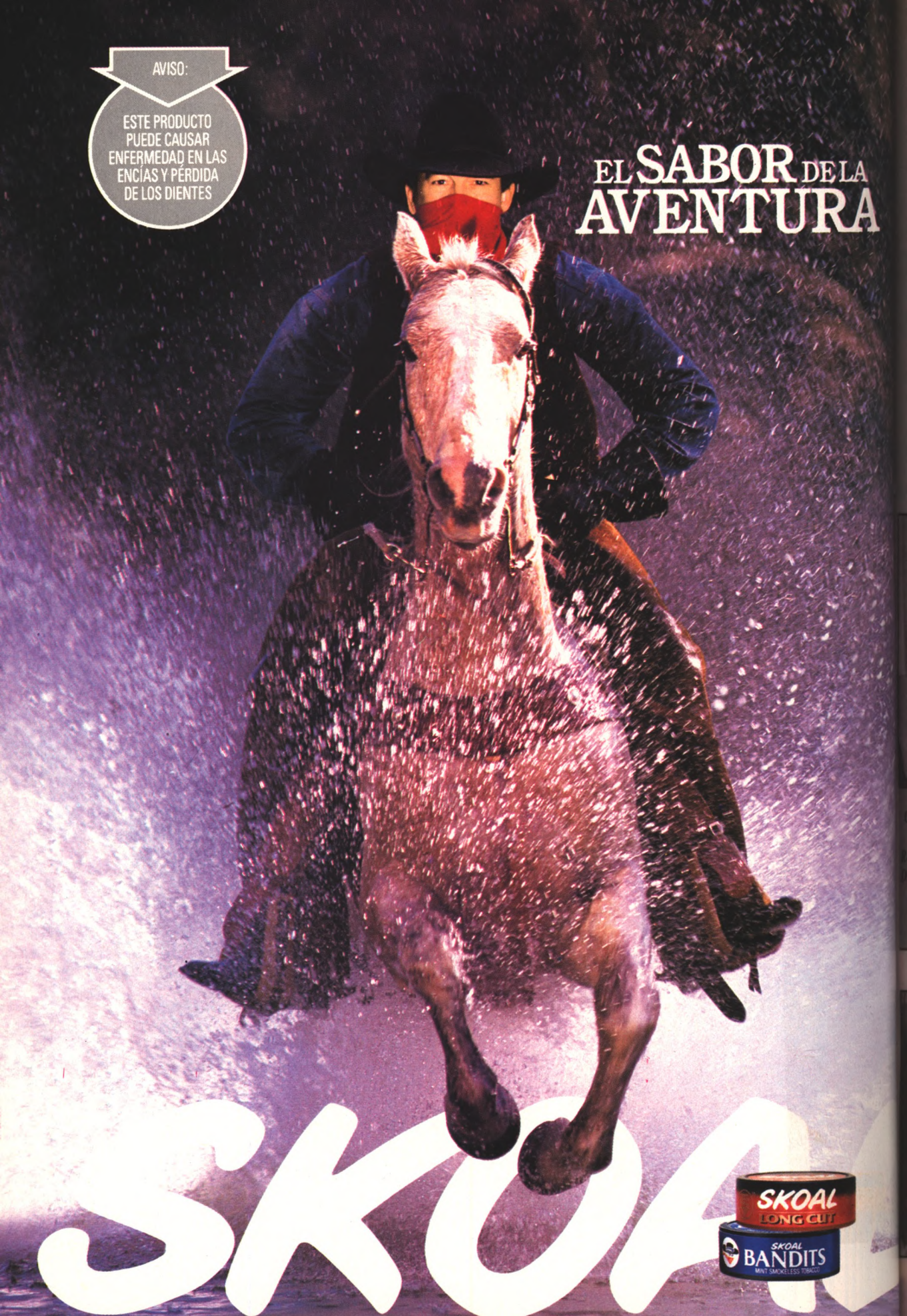
MUHAMMAD ALI

# THE GREATEST FIGHTERS OF ALL-TIME

JULIO CESAR CHAVEZ



ROBERTO DURAN


AVISO:
ESTE PRODUCTO PUEDE CAUSAR ENFERMEDAD EN LAS ENCÍAS Y PÉRDIDA DE LOS DIENTES
EL SABOR DE LA AVENTURA
SKOAL
SKOAL LONG CUT
SKOAL BANDITS
MINT SMOKELESS TOBACCO

# Contents

May 1994

page 36

Cover: Muhammad Ali-Joe Frazier by Ken Regan/Camera 5; Roberto Duran by Bill Apter; Julio Cesar Chavez-Greg Haugen by Holly Stein/Showtime

page 22

## FEATURES


**22 RECORDS ARE MADE TO BE BROKEN, BUT ...**
Why Virgil Hill & Orlando Canizales Won't Replace Bob Foster & Manuel Ortiz
*by Nigel Collins*

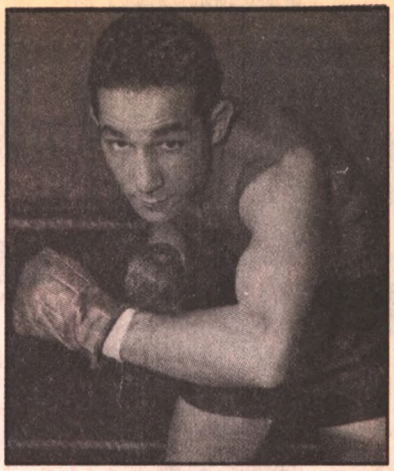
**26 WHAT IF ... JACK DEMPSEY vs. HARRY WILLS**
The Ultimate Heavyweight Showdown
*by Jim Trunzo*

**36 "THE RUSSIAN SUGAR RAY"**
Believe The Hype—Kostya Tszyu Is For Real!
*by David Alfonso*

**38 FIGHT DAY WITH JAMES TONEY**
The Human Side
*Photos by Tom Casino*

**43 SPECIAL SECTION: DIVISION BY DIVISION, THE GREATEST FIGHTERS OF ALL-TIME**
THE RING Rates The Top Five Fighters At Every Weight
*by Steve Farhood*


page 43



## Ringside Reports And Analyses


**32 FIGHTER OF THE MONTH AND RINGSIDE REPORTS**

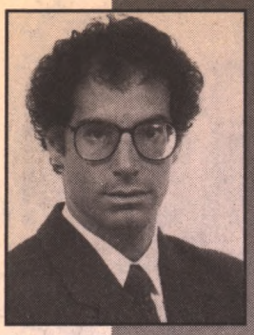

## Ratings


**14 THE RING'S INTERNATIONAL RATINGS AND RECORDS**

**82 WBA, WBC, & IBF RATINGS**


## DEPARTMENTS


4 **RINGSIDE** *by Steve Farhood*
6 **COME OUT WRITING**
8 **ROUND ONE**
16 **NEW FACES: Flyweight Danny Romero** *by Phil Woolever*
18 **RYAN OUT LOUD** *by Jeff Ryan*
20 **TIME CAPSULES** *by Stanley Weston*
30 **WORLDWIDE FIGHT RESULTS**
84 **THE RING CLASSIC: Popularity: How Best Attained** *by Jesse Abramson*
90 **LOOKING AHEAD**



# Ringside

Frankie Randall's split decision over Julio Cesar Chavez was the biggest upset since Buster Douglas kayoed Mike Tyson. Unfortunately, the drama unfolded one day after our deadline. (You think they'd be a bit more considerate.) Look for complete coverage in next month's issue. However, we were able to consider Randall-Chavez, as well as the other fights on Don King's pay-per-view card at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas, before compiling the ratings in this issue (page 14).

***

In March, hope springs eternal. The winter's been a bitch, at least in my Northeastern zip code, and as I add layer upon layer to protect against those below-zero wind chill numbers, I finally realize why Don King relocated to Miami and Bob Arum to Las Vegas. I've written a lot of bad things about those guys, but I've never claimed they weren't smarter than me.

Between the frost and freeze of February and the dog days of August, I suppose I'm allowed some warm thoughts. Sharon Stone and lottery winnings aside, here are one punchdrunk writer's fantasies:

• My weekend afternoons are spent in front of the tube. Boxing is back on CBS. Lots of boxing, just like in the early-'80s. Good fights, too, because CBS is bidding against ABC and NBC. Casual sports fans are learning about Charles Murray and Ricardo Lopez and Gerald McClellan and Junior Jones. The Nielsen numbers are strong (when weren't they?) and the advertisers are queuing up to buy time. Michael Jordan is wasting his time trying to hit curve balls, so boxing becomes the sport of the '90s.

• Pernell Whitaker is rematched with Julio Cesar Chavez. The bout again goes the distance, and the winner is ... Who cares who the winner is? All that matters is that the winner deserves the verdict.

• As if by divine intervention, fighters stop getting into trouble. No more drug busts, bank robberies, or 2 a.m. brawls in bars and coffee shops. Model citizens, every one of them. They begin to train diligently, too, and the huffing, puffing blubbery heavyweight goes the way of the dinosaur. Every fighter looks like Evander Holyfield and punches as often as Zack Padilla. I'm talking image overhaul. Forget Shaquille. That's Oscar De La Hoya winking at you from your Wheaties box.

• THE RING arranges a summit conference for all the alphabet boys. Realizing firm steps must be taken to save the sport, WBC President Jose Sulaiman convinces the organizations to merge. There will be one set of ratings and no need for unification matches because each division will be headed by a single champion. Moreover, the WBA, WBC, and IBF agree to pool referees and judges. Officials will be graded after each title fight, and only the best will continue to work.

• Congress passes a bill creating federal legislation of boxing. Every state has a commission, and every commission implements the same rules and medical regulations.

• Mike Tyson prepares for release from prison; Riddick Bowe and Razor Ruddock devastate opponents in comeback bouts; Evander Holyfield and Michael Moorer engage in a slugfest for the ages, and for the first time since "Iron Mike's" prime, no one is bemoaning the state of the heavyweight division. There are enough big-name matchups to last five years. At bars, on streetcorners, at office water coolers, everyone's talking about the big guys. And I don't mean John Bobbitt and Tonya Harding's bodyguard.

• THE RING'S circulation begins to skyrocket after Editor-in-Chief Steve Farhood graces the cover of *People* and *GQ*, subs for Arsenio for a week, authors the Great American Novel, and wins a Pulitzer Prize. Did a say Pulitzer? I meant a *Nobel* Prize.

Like I said, it's cold outside, and maybe I've been wearing my hat too tight.

**Steve Farhood**
**Editor-in-Chief**

# The RING®

# Sportswear Collection

## *The Ring* Tradition continues ...

**Over the past 72 years, *The Ring* has established a tradition of unsurpassed excellence. That tradition continues with *The Ring* Sportswear Collection, featuring the highest quality apparel available!**

**THE RING JACKET:** The pride of our sportswear collection is The Official *Ring* Jacket. This satin jacket features gold striped cuffs and bottom. But the knockout punch comes with a four-color 60,000 stitch embroidered replica of *The Ring* logo located on the back of the jacket. As an added bonus, the logo is also embroidered on the front. Available in black only.
Sizes: S, M, L, XL, XXL **$129.95**

**BASEBALL CAP:** You'll be the envy of your friends when you wear this sporty baseball cap. Constructed of 100% cotton, this cap includes a leather strap back-size adjuster, and a front cord braid. Available in black only. One size fits all. **$13.95**

**SHORTS:** Perfect for running or everyday use, these quality shorts are made of 100% cotton and are trimmed in red. Other features include side pockets, an elastic waist with a draw-string, and an embroidered four-color *Ring* logo.
Sizes: M, L, XL, XXL **$24.95**

NEW ITEMS!

**BASEBALL JERSEY:** Talk about sporty! *The Ring* baseball jersey scores big with a two-color combination ... black with red trim. This 100% all-cotton, button-down jersey features an embroidered four-color replica of *The Ring* logo.
Sizes: M, L, XL, XXL **$34.95**

**HOODED SWEAT SHIRT:** Excellent for those early-morning runs, *The Ring* hooded sweat shirt is constructed of 50% cotton/50% polyester. This high-quality crosknit design features a hood with drawstring, front pouch, extra full cut, bodyside panels, and set-in sleeves. Available in black only.
Sizes: L, XL, XXL **$34.95**

**CREW NECK SWEAT SHIRT:** When it comes to sweat shirts, this is the undisputed champion. This sweat is 50% cotton/50% polyester and is definitely in the heavyweight division of sweat shirts. Features include an extra full cut, body side panels, set-in sleeves, and our three-color logo (red, white, & gold). Available in black only.
Sizes: L, XL, XXL **$29.95**

**T-SHIRT:** You'll look like a world champ when wearing *The Ring* T-shirt. This quality "T" is the standard by which all others are judged. Our 100% preshrunk cotton shirt features a three-color logo (red, white, & gold) on a black shirt or red, black, & gold on a white shirt. Available in black or white.
Sizes: S, M, L, XL, XXL **$14.95**

**TANK TOP:** This quality tank top is guaranteed to survive the most brutal workouts both in the gym and the ring. Made of 100% cotton, this tank is sure to go the distance. Available in black or white.
Sizes: S, M, L, XL **$14.95**

**BOXING DESIGN SHIRT:** Custom made for *The Ring* collection, this sporty shirt features a unique boxing print on both the front and back. Constructed of high-quality 100% cotton, the design is silk screened in gray on a white background. Available in gray on white only.
Sizes: S, M, L, XL **$19.95**

**Yes, I would like to order the item(s) indicated below. I have enclosed a check or money order made payable to London Publishing Co. or provided my credit card information to charge my purchase.**

**Name** _____

**Address** _____ **Apt.#** _____

**City** _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

☐ **Check or money order (enclosed and payable to London Publishing Co.)**

☐ **VISA #** _____

☐ **MasterCard** _____

**Expiration Date:** ____/____ MO / YR

**Signature:** _____

| | QUANTITY | COLOR | SIZE | COST |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Ring Jacket** | | **black** | | |
| **Hooded sweat shirt** | | **black** | | |
| **Crew neck Sweat** | | **black** | | |
| **T-Shirt** | | | | |
| **Design Shirt** | | **gray** | | |
| **Tank Top** | | | | |
| **Baseball Cap** | | **black** | — | |
| **Baseball Jersey** | | **black** | | |
| **Shorts** | | **black** | | |
| | | | **Sub-total** | |
| | | | **Shipping & Handling** | |
| | | | **PA residents add 6% sales tax** | |
| | | | **TOTAL ENCLOSED** | |

**SHIPPING & HANDLING: For orders from within the United States add $3 for each item ordered. For orders outside the United States, add $7 for each item ordered.**

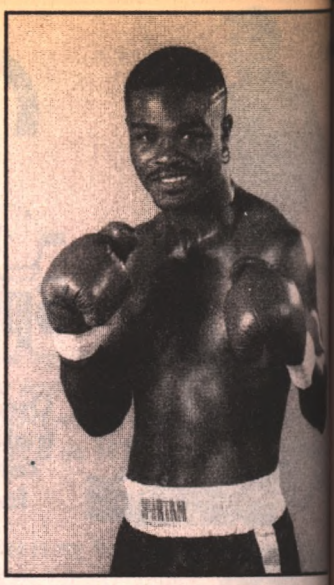
**SEND YOUR ORDERS TO:**

**London Publishing Co.**
**Box 956**
**Ft. Washington, PA 19034**

**Allow 3-4 weeks for delivery. Foreign orders: International money orders in U.S. funds only.**

1770/10-93

# Come Out Writing



*Norris: Is a showdown with Whitaker next?*

**We welcome your letters, which may be edited for reasons of space and clarity. Send your comments to Come Out Writing, The Ring, P.O. Box 956, Ft. Washington, PA 19034**

## HOW ABOUT NORRIS vs. WHITAKER?

After watching "Terrible" Terry Norris stagger around the ring for 3½ rounds against Simon Brown, I can't see him troubling any of the reigning world middleweight champions. His only alternative is to drop down and challenge WBC welterweight champion Pernell Whitaker, whom he'd have a good chance of beating. The fight's a natural; both fighters have run out of competition. The prediction: Norris to win by sixth-round kayo.

M. ROWLEY
North Shields, England

## RISKS MAKE A LEGEND

Hold it right there! I just picked up the February 1994 issue of THE RING, which featured a "Battle Of T... Legends" matchup at super middleweight between Thomas Hearns and James Toney. You cannot put Toney in t... category of a legend. Not yet, anyway. Toney is a good fighter, but he's proved nothing. Legends are ma... through fights. When was the last time Toney took a fight against someone who had a chance of beating hi... Hearns took a lot of risks and fought a lot of great fighters. He didn't beat all of them, but always bounced ba... from defeats. That's what makes a legend!

J.D. BRIDGES
N. Hollywood, CA

*At the Olympic, blood spilled inside the ring and out*

## DEATH OF A FIGHT CLUB

Regarding Robert Cassidy's story, "Where Have All The Fight Clubs Gone?" (February 1994)

I started going to the Olympic Auditorium in 1967. The fighters had names like Mando Ra... Ken Norton, "Indian Red" Lopez, and Frankie Crawford, and the fans were an ethnic mix. There w... an occasional fight outside the ring, but the crowd was fairly respectable, and it was a place a g... could bring his date.

Now tell me what's wrong with this picture:

- Riots with fighters having to escape through a tunnel.
- Ring announcers hit and scarred by flying bottles.
- Fans ripping up rows of chairs, setting fires, and tossing cups of urine.

Does this sound like a fun place normal people would like to go to?

I stopped going to the Olympic in the mid-'70s because the crowd changed. Most respectable fans st... home and left it to the animals to wallow in their filth.

The behavior of the latter-day "fans" caused the death of the Olympic. Cassidy's article, for some rea... seems to glorify the trash and scum that was the Olympic at the end. Regardless of what Rafael Mendoza and Jo... Beyrooty said, the place needed to be boarded up.

Maybe Bob Arum can revive the Olympic, but he'll have to be careful and beef up security to preven... recurrence of the nightmare that was.

GEORGE LePAGE
Los Angeles, CA

*(Continued on page*

Volume 73, No. 5 May 1994

# The RING

THE RING
"The Bible Of Boxing"

NATHANIEL S. FLEISCHER
1888-1972 Founder

STANLEY WESTON
Publisher

STUART M. SAKS
Associate Publisher

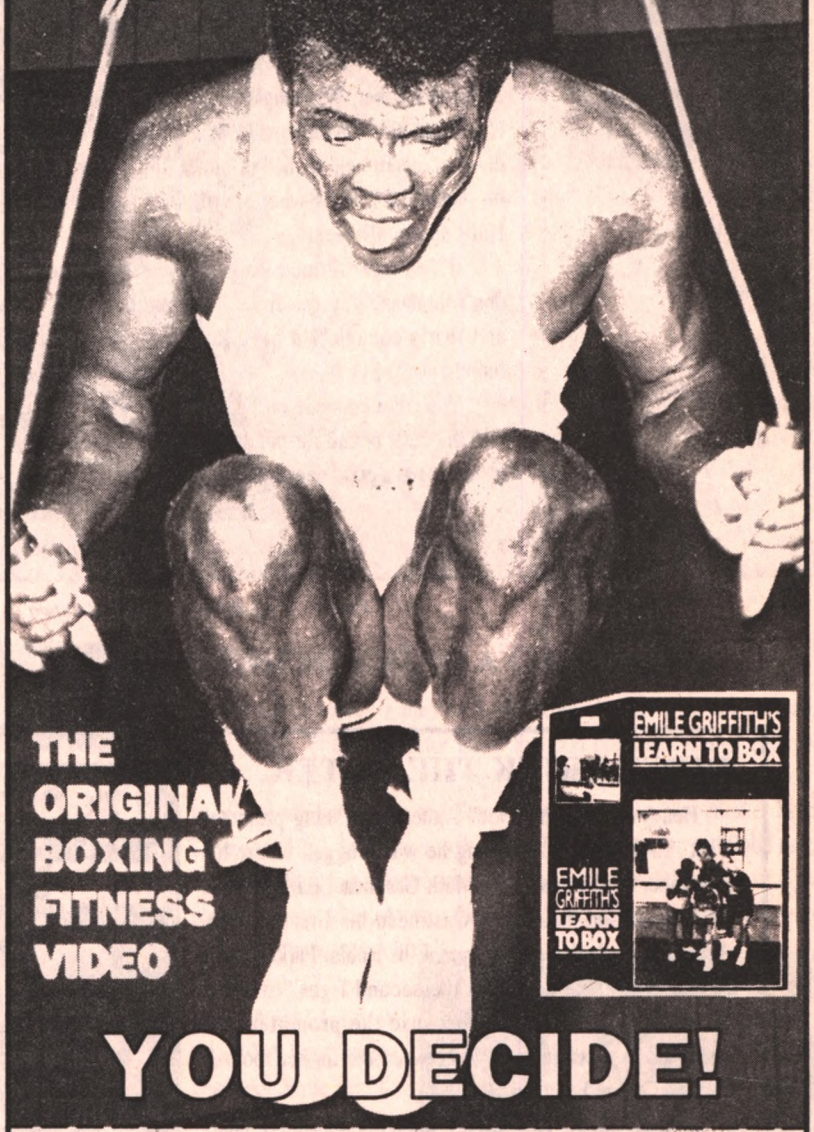
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF.....Steven Farhood
EXECUTIVE EDITOR.....Craig Peters
MANAGING EDITOR.....Nigel Collins
ASSOCIATE EDITOR.....Eric A. Karabell
PHOTO EDITOR.....Bill Apter
ART DIRECTOR.....Barbara Ann Brady
PRODUCTION COORDINATOR.....Bob Eddy
ART ASSOCIATES.....Tina Filice
.....Johnathan Clifton Harding
.....Joseph Kalman
.....Alex Krasnopolsky
PRODUCTION ASSOCIATES.....Cliff Campo
.....Bernard V. Thompson III
.....Ron Frankhouser
ASSISTANT PHOTO EDITOR.....Jason Ross Lavin
ASSISTANT EDITORS.....V.J. Paterno
.....Dave Lenker
EDITORIAL ASSISTANT.....Jake Mattox

PRESIDENT
Kenneth J. Gudaitis
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT/CIRCULATION
Charles Walker
TECHNICAL ADVISER/PRODUCTION
Doug Heller
DIRECTOR OF MARKETING
David Gerhardt
CIRCULATION DIRECTOR
Robert Nucci
SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES
Nancy Parsons
P.O. Box 910
Ft. Washington, PA 19034

THE RING (ISSN 0035-5410) is published monthly by London Publishing Co., 7002 West Butler Pike, Ambler, PA 19002. Reproduction in whole or in part without the written permission of the copyright owners is prohibited. Single copy price: $3.50 ($3.95 in Canada, £2.50 in U.K.) THE RING is not responsible for the return of unsolicited material. Second-class postage paid at Rockville Centre, NY, and at additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send change of address to "THE RING," P.O. Box 910, Ft. Washington, PA 19034. FOR ADVERTISING INQUIRIES AND RATES: (310) 572-7272. U.S. and Canadian distribution by Kable News Company, Inc., 11 W. 42nd St., New York, NY 10036; International distribution by Worldwide Media Service Inc., 115 East 23rd St., New York, NY 10010.

Printed in U.S.A.

TRAIN WITH A FORMER 6 TIME WORLD CHAMPION?




YOU DECIDE!

This powerful 2-tape set is only $39.99 + $5.00 for postage and handling.
(New York State residents add applicable sales tax, include tax on postage and handling.)

Send check or Money Order to:
OFF THE CANVAS, Inc., P.O. Box 1124, Bellmore, New York 11710-0326

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____ APT # _____

Available only in USA/VHS format. Foreign orders add $6.00 per order surcharge in International Money Order payable in U.S. Dollars only.

# Round One

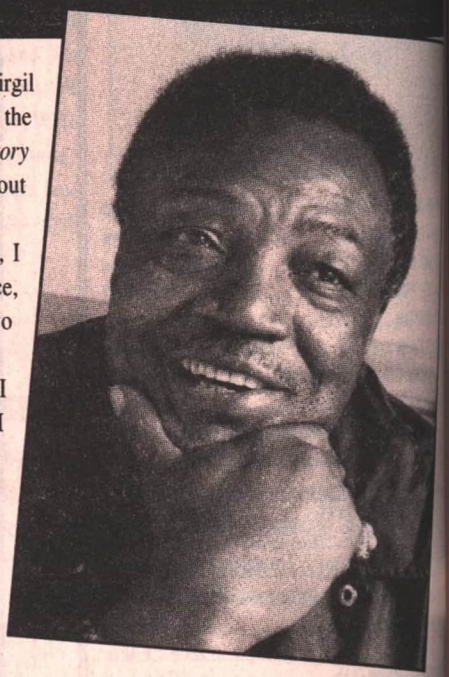
## FOSTER(ING) A FEUD?

In December, WBA light heavyweight champion Virgil Hill made his 15th defense (over two reigns), breaking the division record held by hall of famer Bob Foster. *(See story on page 22.)* This is what Sheriff Bob had to say about Hill's accomplishment:

"He's fine with me as a person, but to be honest, I don't think the guy can fight. I've seen him fight twice, and that's enough. I'd have knocked him out in two rounds.

"You can't compare no light heavyweight with me. I was the best, pound-for-pound. I had power, reach ... I haven't seen a good one since I left the ring."

**—Doug Nassif**



*Foster: "I would've kayoed Hill in two"*

## DON'T DRINK THE WATER

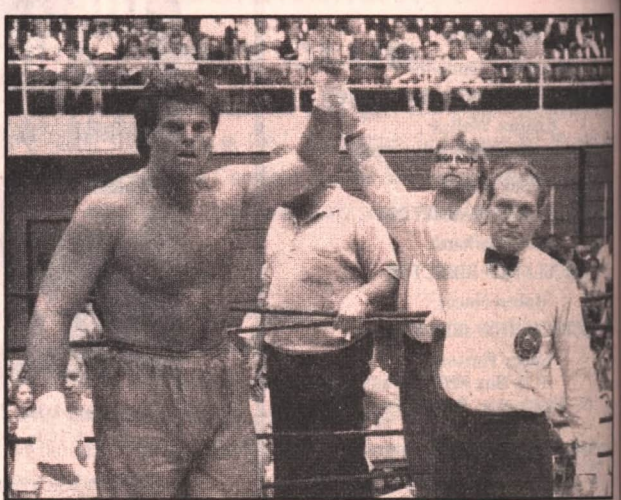
Heavyweight Tim "Doc" Anderson is suing promoter Rick "Elvis" Parker, claiming he was drugged before his December 1992 rematch vs. Mark Gastineau. Earlier in the year, Anderson had issued Gastineau his first pro loss. According to Anderson's lawyer, Ellis Rubin, Parker asked Anderson to take a dive in the second fight "to clean Gastineau's record," and because the promoter was interested in arranging a fight between the former football star and George Foreman.

"Parker offered Tim half a million dollars and 10 guaranteed wins if he would go down in two rounds," Rubin said.

The lawyer added that Anderson's seconds disappeared before the fight and were replaced by strangers. At the end of the third round, Rubin claims, Anderson was given water from a paper beer cup and immediately began feeling sick.

"He couldn't see; he was dizzy; he was vomiting," said Rubin. "He could hardly stand up."

Gastineau halted Anderson in the sixth round.



*Gastineau and Parker (wearing glasses): in on a fix?*

In an October 1993 issue of *Sports Illustrated*, Parker was the target of accusations that he fixed fights involving Gastineau and one-time contender Tex Cobb. The promoter denied having ever fixed a fight.

## HONORING "THE HURRICANE"

To the uninitiated, Rubin "Hurricane" Carter smothers whatever bitterness he may harbor for the American judicial system having unjustly taken 20 years of his freedom for a triple-murder he and a friend did not commit in Paterson, New Jersey, 27 years ago.

Such was the impression the former middleweight contender gave in December, when the WBC's 30th anniversary convention in Las Vegas presented Carter with an honorary world championship belt.

Photo by Chris Farina

*Hurricane Carter and former rival Emile Griffith*

"I often dreamed about winning a championship in a ring, but here I am winning it at a dinner without breaking a sweat," Carter, 50, said during a ceremony at the Sahara Hotel. "Had I won it in the ring, I don't think I'd be able to appreciate it like I can today. I'm so happy to be with you tonight, but given my history, it's a great pleasure to be anywhere."

Carter and John Artis were arrested on June 17, 1966, and charged with shooting three patrons in a neighborhood bar. Despite sound alibis, the charges stuck.

Carter, who lives with his wife Lisa in Toronto, never felt he would be convicted. "I was positive I would be set free," he said. "Even after I was convicted. But that dream left me when I woke up one morning and was blind in my left eye. It came from an infection and it was the lack of simple medical attention in prison.

"I realized I would never box again ... never be champion, but now I was fighting for my life. It didn't take long to learn prison life affects every molecule of your being. It impairs your physiology, the way you walk, the way you talk, and your mind. Prison conditions you to exist there where you can't exist anywhere else."

Upon presenting the belt to Carter, WBC President Jose Sulaiman said, "In your book, *The Sixteenth Round*, you wrote of going from number-one contender to number 45472. Tonight, Rubin, you're back from number 45472 to number one. You're getting a championship belt you won in life."

**—Jack Welsh**

## 10 REASONS WHY BOXING DOESN'T GET MAINSTREAM PUBLICITY

10. Amy Fisher refuses to join prison boxing team.
9. The fighters aren't as pretty as Nancy Kerrigan—or as tough as Tonya Harding.
8. *Entertainment Tonight* is scared James Toney will shove a tape recorder down Mary Hart's throat.
7. Mike Tyson hasn't been playing the club scene for a while.
6. Mark Gastineau is ducking Mickey Rourke.
5. Don King is sitting on the rumor that Julio Cesar Chavez was once Madonna's boy toy.
4. Joe Frazier and Larry Holmes gave up their singing careers.
3. *GQ* canceled a cover shoot with Bernard "The Executioner" Hopkins.
2. Fighters still believe that crap about women weakening legs.
1. There are no cutmen with hands as fast as Lorena Bobbitt.

## REMEMBERING A GAMER:

At the Christmas dinner of Ring 8 (the Veteran Boxers Association of New York), THE RING editor Steve Farhood presented former heavyweight contender Doug Jones with a framed cover of the magazine's March 1963 issue. Featured are Jones and Zora Folley, whom the New Yorker kayoed in December 1962. In addition to defeating Folley, Jones kayoed Bob Foster and, in March 1963, lost a controversial decision to an up-and-coming heavyweight named Cassius Clay. Among the best fighters of his era never to win a title, Jones was unsuccessful in tries vs. 175-pound king Harold Johnson and WBA heavyweight champion Ernie Terrell.

Also honored were Carlos Ortiz, Joe Miceli, Henry Wallitsch, Ted Wint, Julie Bort, Herbie Kronowitz, Everlast's Dennis Clancy, and famed artist LeRoy Neiman.

Photo by Chris Cassidy

*THE RING Editor Steve Farhood and Doug Jones*

## FAN MAN REDUX

It didn't take long for James Miller, a.k.a. Fan Man, to resurface. In Januar Miller was arrested for interfering with a sporting event after paragliding 1,0 feet above the Los Angeles Coliseum during the NFL playoff game between t Raiders and Broncos. There was no crash-landing this time; Miller landed i park near the Coliseum.

Miller's comment: "Wait till the Super Bowl." Must've broken his hea when he learned the Georgia Dome is an enclosed stadium.

*The return of Fan Man*

## THE RING AND THE HALL

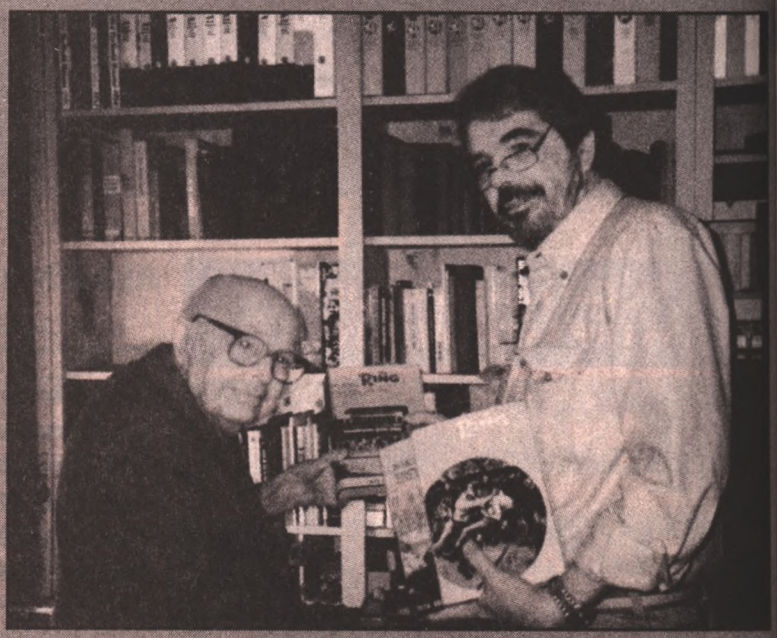
The International Boxing Hall of Fame, located in Canastota, New York, is planning to expand its research and library facility, due largely to recent contributions by Jack Fiske and Charles F. Parker.

Fiske, a longtime boxing writer and columnist for the *San Francisco Chronicle*, donated a complete collection of THE RING, one of only a handful in existence. All issues, from Volume 1, Number 1 in 1922 through December 1993, are bound and in mint condition.

Parker, a lifelong collector from Gorham, Maine, donated all of his memorabilia, including 300 issues of THE RING, Everlast record books from 1922 to 1938, and more than 50 boxing books, including several rare titles.

"With these recent additions to our library," said Hall of Fame Director Ed Brophy, "we think we may now have the most extensive and complete library of boxing in the world."

The Hall of Fame Museum research department is available to the public by appointment.



*Charles Parker and Pete DeVeber (publicist for Marvin Hagler)*

***

In January, Brophy announced the 1994 additions to the Hall of Fame, to be inducted on June 12.

From the Modern category: light heavyweight and heavyweight champion Michael Spinks, long-reigning WBC bantamweight champion Carlos Zarate, light heavyweight titlist Joey Maxim, and junior welterweight champion Jack "Kid" Berg. Spinks and Zarate were elected in their first year of eligibility.

Old-Timers: light heavyweight champions John Henry Lewis and Philadelphia Jack O'Brien, heavyweight king Jack Sharkey, and flyweight titlist Pancho Villa.

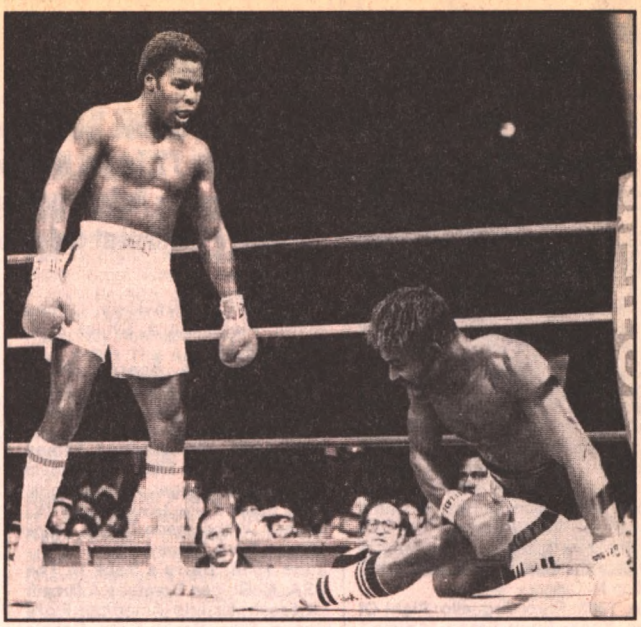
Pioneers: heavyweight Ben Brain, who fought in the 1780s, and Paddy Duffy, the first recognized world welterweight champion.

Non-Participants: promoter Chris Dundee, trainer Eddie Futch, referee Ruby Goldstein, and radio and TV announcer and one-time RING columnist Sam Taub.

Those interested in attending Hall of Fame Weekend (June 9-12) should write to the IBHF at 1 Hall of Fame Drive, Canastota, New York 13032 or call (315) 697-7095.

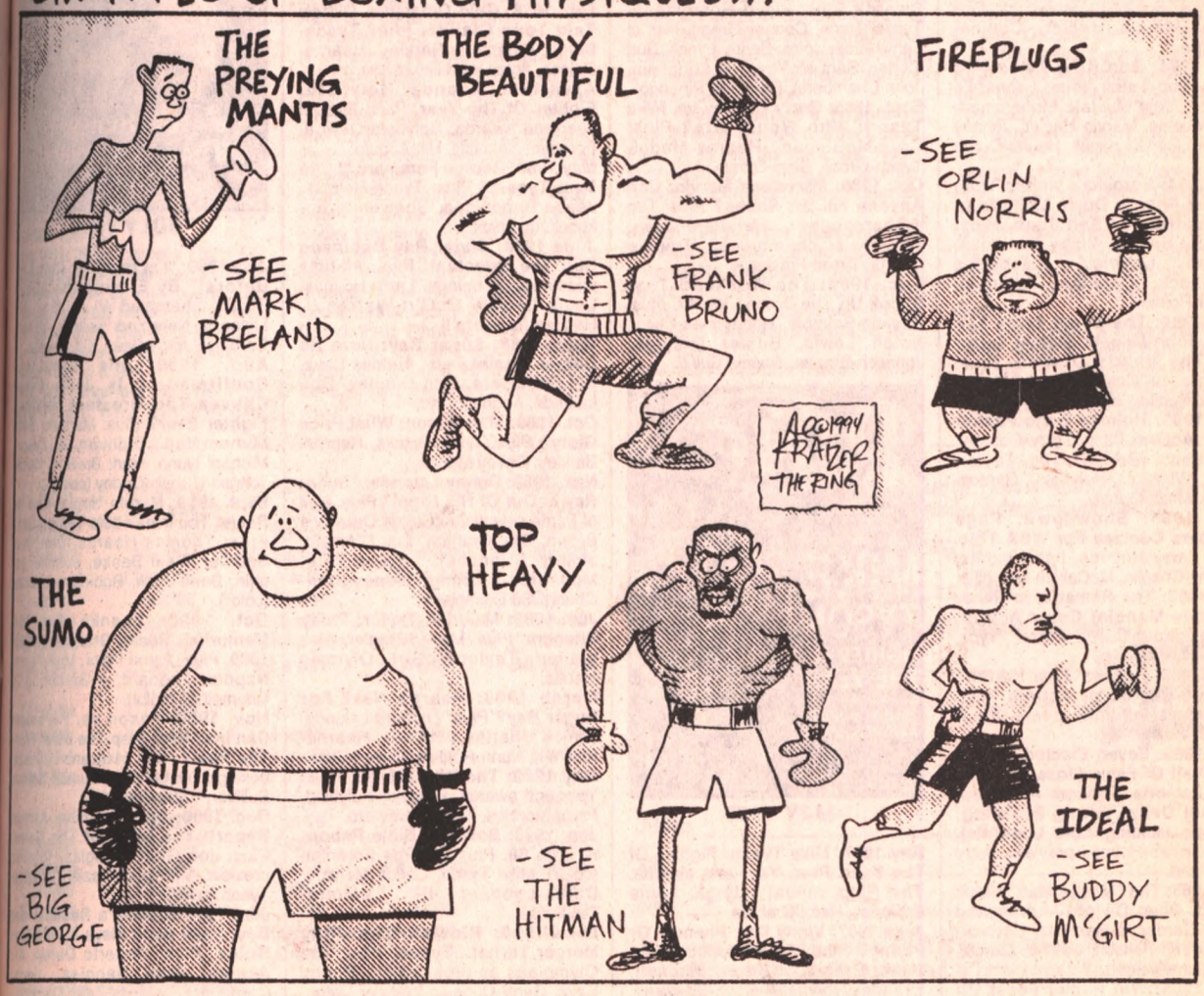
## OUTSIDE THE ROPES

Earl Mastro, a featherweight contender who fought out of Chicago in the '20s and '30s, died of heart failure at his home in Frazer Park, California. He was 85. Mastro, whose career was cut short by a detached retina, lost a 10-round decision to reigning 126-pound champion **Bat Battalino** in 1931. "The Windy City Buzz Saw" was on the cover of the December 1929 issue of THE RING. His career mark: 51-3-2 with 2 no-contests ... Former middleweight contender **William "Caveman" Lee**, 37, was arrested for robbing his third Detroit-area bank. After two convictions, he allegedly committed the latest theft about a week after being released from prison. In 1982, the Kronk powerpuncher was stopped in the first round of a world title fight vs. Marvin Hagler ... In Washington, D.C., former heavyweight champion **Riddick Bowe** made an offer of $100 for firearms, and according to manager **Rock Newman**, 3,600 guns were traded for cash at the Union Temple Baptist Church. In case you can't locate your pistol, that makes "Big Daddy" and Rock lighter in the pocket by $360,000 ... Former middleweight champion **Vito Antuofermo** was arrested on a Manhattan subway platform on charges of carrying an unlicensed handgun. Antuofermo, who now works as an actor, had just finished his performance in the long-running Off-Broadway play *Tony N' Tina's Wedding*. ■



*Caveman Lee kayos Costello King*

## AL KRATZER'S VIEW



# Back Issues of The RING

**Add to your RING collection by ordering from our limited supply of back issues. Order by the year or buy any 12 issues and save up to 25%. Single issues are $5 each. Listed prices include postage and handling. Supplies are limited. To assure fulfillment order today.**

**April 1980: Exclusive: Vito Antuofermo Speaks Out.** Plus: Leroy Jones, cruiserweights, Ken Norton rates the heavyweights, Olympic boycott, Danny Lopez.

**Aug. 1982: Cooney: Is He The Real McCoy?** Plus: Sugar Ray Leonard pinup, Holmes-Cooney coverage, Howard Davis, British heavyweights, Larry Holmes, Limon-Navarette.

**Sept. 1982: Leon Spinks: Boxing's Prodigal Son Returns To The Cruiserweights.** Plus: Marvin Hagler, Sanchez-Nelson, Max Baer, Milton McCrory.

**Jan. 1983: Pryor-Arguello: Fight Of The Year.** Plus: Frank "Animal" Fletcher, Dwight Braxton-Michael Spinks preview, ring deaths, Muhammad Ali.

**Feb. 1983: Michael Dokes: Tainted Champion?** Plus: Howard Cosell, Ray Mancini, Bum of the Month Club, Chacon-Limon.

**May 1983: Michael Spinks Wins It All.** Plus: Spinks-Braxton color, Bob Arum, Marvin Hagler, Collins-LaPaglia.

**Feb. 1984: Don King Talks And Talks And Talks.** Plus: Leonard's return, Eddie Mustafa Muhammad, 1983 quotes, Marvin Hagler, Johnny Bratton, Gerald Hayes, Hagler-Duran color.

**July 1984: Bazooka's Aim Is True: Gomez Shoots Down LaPorte In The Battle For San Juan.** Plus: Michael Spinks, Vinny Pazienza, Tyrone Crawley, Leonard's comeback, Chandler-Sandoval, Hagler-Roldan.

**Oct. 1984: The Beast From The East: John Mugabi Strikes Terror Into The Hearts Of Men.** Plus: Olympics, Bill Costello, Davey Moore, Wilfred Benitez, King's heavyweights.

**Jan. 1985: Holmes-Bonecrusher Color Action.** Plus: Gerry Cooney, pro debuts (Breland, Hill, Taylor, Biggs, Whitaker, Holyfield), Santos-Medal, Meza-Garza.

**Feb. 1985: Showdown: Page Clobbers Coetzee For WBA Title.** Plus: Larry Holmes, lightweights, Cooney-Chaplin, McCallum-Minchillo.

**May 1985: The Rematch In Reno: Bramble-Mancini Color Action.** Plus: Donald Curry, Aaron Pryor, McGuigan-LaPorte.

**June 1985: Holmes' Last Hurrah? Holmes-Bey Color Action.** Plus: Holmes vs. all-time greats, Paul-Arroyo, 1901.

**Aug. 1985: Seven Elected To The Ring Hall Of Fame (Jose Napoles, Jake LaMotta, Panama Al Brown, Manuel Ortiz, Young Stribling, Thomas Jackling, Lord Lonsdale).** Plus: Spinks-Holmes preview, Barry McGuigan.

**Oct. 1985: The "Macho Man" Rides Again.** Plus: Dwight Muhammad Qawi, Camacho-Ramirez, Berbick-Green, Jeff Fenech, John E. Garcia, McCallum-Braxton.

**Nov. 1985: Will Hagler Feast On The Beast?** Plus: Hagler-Mugabi & Hearns-Shuler previews, Lonnie Smith, Pintor-Meza, Chuck Hull, Benitez-Moley.

**Jan. 1986: In Search Of A Heavyweight Champion.** Plus: Azumah Nelson, Arguello-Jefferson, Olympic update, Chicago boxing.

**April 1986: Witherspoon Tames Tubbs For WBA Title.** Plus: Dream fights, Greg Haugen, Tyrell Biggs, Mark Breland, Paul Gonzales, HBO tourney, Witherspoon-Tubbs, Frank Warren, Gene Tunney.

**June 1986: Barry's Back In The USA: McGuigan Breathes A Breath Of Fresh Air Into American Fight Scene.** Plus: Bobby Czyz, Robbie Sims, Qawi-Holyfield preview, Berbick-Thomas, Bruno-Coetzee.

**July 1986: Spinks-Holmes II: Who Really Won?** Plus: Frank Bruno, Richie Sandoval, Kevin Watts, Tyson-Tillis, Boza-Edwards-Alli, Johnson-Burns.

**Aug. 1986: Is Sugar Ray Still Sweet?** Plus: Lloyd Honeyghan, Tyson-Green, Cooney-Gregg, Hall of Fame (Eder Jofre, Benny Lynch, Bud Taylor, Sam McVey, Nat Langham, John Chambers), Bernardo Pinango.

**Sept. 1986: Gerry Cooney vs. Mike Tyson: Who Would Win?** Plus: Cruz-McGuigan, Hearns-Medal, Tyson-Gross, Sims-Duran.

**Oct. 1986: Marvelous Marvin: Can Anyone Fill His Shoes?** Plus: Tim Witherspoon, Holyfield-Qawi, Panama's champions, Frankie Duarte, Tyson-Frazier.

**Dec. 1986: The Weekend That Shook Up The Boxing World.** Plus: Rosario-Bramble, Honeyghan-Curry, Butch Lewis, Buster Drayton, Johnson-Emebe, *Raging Bull II*.

**MAY 1987**

**May 1987: Mike Tyson: Fighter Of The Year.** Plus: Year-end awards, *The Ring* annual ratings, Louie Espinoza, Herol Graham.

**June 1987: Vinny Paz: Phenom Or Phony?** Plus: Tyson-Bonecrusher, Mark Breland, Brian Mitchell, Evander Holyfield, Czyz-Edwards, Olajide-Lee, Curry-Montgomery.

**July 1987: Spinks-Cooney: The Fight That Refused To Die.** Plus: The new *Ring* ratings, Terry Marsh, George Foreman's return, Khaosai Galaxy, Hearns-Andries, Whitaker-Mayweather.

**Sept. 1987: Michael Olajide: The Look Of The Future?** Plus: Tyson-Thomas, Jeff Fenech, middleweight muddle, Tsuyoshi Hamada, Juan Roldan, Harold Knight.

**Oct. 1987: Special Hall Of Fame Issue: All Elected Unanimously!** Plus: Hall of Fame directory, Spinks-Cooney, Pazienza-Haugen II, Aaron Pryor.

**Dec. 1987: Spinks & Lewis: Boxing's Beastie Boys.** Plus: Starling-Breland, Ramzi Hassan, Honeyghan-Hatcher, Holyfield-Ocasio.

**Jan. 1988: Darrin Van Horn-Million Dollar Baby?** Plus: Evander Holyfield, Hill-Stewart, Juan Coggi, great hookers, AIDS.

**Feb. 1988: Gold Outshines Glitter: Tate Tops Olajide.** Plus: Tyson-Biggs, Kalambay-Barkley, Hearns-Roldan, fights we'd like to see.

**April 1988: Evander Holyfield: Fighter Of The Year.** Plus: Special year-end awards, Holyfield-Qawi II, Foreman-Sekorski, Hill-Angulo.

**May 1988: George Foreman: "I Can Beat Tyson."** Plus: Tyson-Holmes, Jesse Benavides, Showtime, no-knockout artists.

**June 1988: Sugar Ray Robinson Still The Sweetest!** Plus: All-time middleweight ratings, Larry Holmes, Louie Lomeli, McGirt-Warren II, Haugen-Pazienza II.

**Sept. 1988: Sugar Ray: Here He Comes Again!** Plus: Andries-Czyz, Kid Chocolate, Don Dunphy, Don Lalonde, Andries-Czyz.

**Oct. 1988: Mike Tyson: What Price Glory?** Plus: Tyson-Spinks, Hearns-Barkley, Davey Moore.

**Nov. 1988: Donny Lalonde: "Sugar Ray is Out Of His Mind!"** Plus: Hall of Fame selections (Carlos Ortiz, Joe Brown, Billy Graham, Cus D'Amato, Jimmy Jacobs), Nunn-Tate, Molinares-Starling, Honeyghan-Chung, '88 Olympians.

**Jan. 1989: Meldrick Taylor: Philly Phenom.** Plus: Marvin Hagler, Alex Wallau, Taylor-McGirt, Olympic results.

**March 1989: Hearns Next For Sugar Ray?** Plus: Leonard-Lalonde, Prince Charles Williams, Hearns-Kinchen, Nunn-Roldan, Hines-Hilton.

**May 1989: The Best Of '88.** Plus: Year-end awards, Evander Holyfield, Pryor-Morales, Fenech-Navarro.

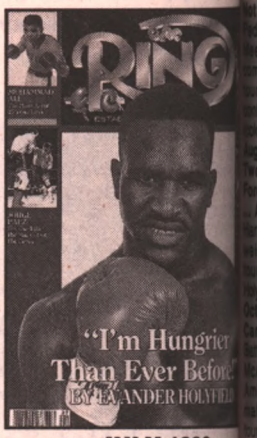
**Jan. 1990: Boxing's Bible Reborn At Age 68.** Plus: George Foreman (color), Mike Tyson, Carlos Monzon, Duran-Leonard III, LaMotta-Dauthuille.

**Feb. 1990: Riddick Bowe/Ray Mercer Target...Tyson:** Plus: The Olympians as pros (color), Bobby Czyz, Gerry Cooney, Wepner-Liston, Bobo Olson.

**March 1990: The '80s-Great Fi... Great Fighters (color).** Plus: Harding, Evander Holyfield, Rademacher, Sharkey-McCoy.

**April 1990: Pernell Whitaker Ring Fighter Of The Year (c...** Plus: Chavez-Taylor pre... Leonard-Duran III, Tiger Flo... Muhammad Ali.

**June 1990: Buster! How J... Douglas Shocked The World.** Michael Moorer, Camacho-P... Tommy Farr, Excuses, Dick ... Ruben Olivares-Jeff Chandler.




**JULY 1990**

**July 1990: "I'm Hungrier Than ... Before!" By Evander Holyf...** Plus: Muhammad Ali painting, Liston II, New York welters, Mi... Carbajal, Jorge Paez, Kid Gavilan.

**Aug. 1990: His Greatn... Confirmed ... Is Julio Cé... Chavez The Greatest Mexi... Fighter Ever?** Plus: Matthew S... Muhammad, Sullivan & Ty... Michael Nunn, Mark Breland, Ho... Johnson, Louis-Godoy (color).

**Sept. 1990: Marvin Hagler-Can... Resist The Irresistible Temptati...** Plus: Thomas Hearns, Sanch... Saddler, Paul Banke, puncher ... chin, Beau Jack, Robinson-Lam... (color).

**Oct. 1990: Thanks For T... Memories: Rocky Graziano, 19... 1990.** Plus: Aaron Pryor, Mike Ty... Napoles-Leonard, A Gathering ... Champions (color).

**Nov. 1990: Tyson vs. Foreman... Can Iron Mike Stop The Blast Fr... The Past?** Plus: Marciano-LaMo... boxing's best chins, Azumah Nels... Sullivan-Kilrain (color).

**Dec. 1990: Our Exclusive Ann... Report: The State Of The Ga...** Plus: Joe Grim, Douglas-Holy... preview, Marciano-Frazier, Doug... Tyson (color).

**Jan. 1991: Boxing's Baddest B... Boy: Nigel Benn Plays By His O... Rules.** Plus: Roberto Duran, ... Akeem, Jose Napoles, Jim ... Carruthers, LaMotta-Zale, Dempsey... Willard (color).

Feb. 1991: **Boxing On TV: Now You'll Pay.** Plus: Ismael Laguna, Tommy Morrison, Humberto Gonzalez, Harold Green, Joe Louis, heavyweight Ring covers (color).
March 1991: **Hunger! It Made Evander A Champ.** Plus: Charles Murray, Billy Bird, Khaosai Galaxy, Armstrong-Duran, computer flyweight tournament, Sonny Liston (color).
April 1991: **Julio Cesar Chavez-The Ring Fighter Of The Year (color).** Plus: Mike Tyson, Wilfred Benitez, Pedro Decima, computer bantamweight tournament.
May 1991: **Ali-Frazier I: 20 Years Later, Still The Fight Of The Century.** Plus: Hometown heroes, George Costner, Galindez-Saad Muhammad, Tony Canzoneri, computer featherweight tournament, Ali-Frazier pinup.
June 1991: **Pain, Frustration, Confidence, And Hope: Meldrick Taylor's Life After Chavez.** Plus: Holyfield-Foreman preview, Norris-Leonard, Freddie Steele, computer lightweight tournament, Tiger-Hearns, Sugar Ray Leonard (color).
July 1991: **Tyson's Title Hopes: He Ain't What He Used To Be...But It's Not Gonna Matter.** Plus: Eusebio Pedroza, Myung Woo Yuh, Willie Meehan, Hearns-Hill preview, computer junior welterweight tournament, Gomez-Fenech, controversial heavyweight finishes (color).
Aug. 1991: **Fat, Funny, And Forty-Two, But Certainly No Fraud: Foreman Gives Holyfield A Fight ... And The World A Thrill.** Plus: Harry Greb, Louis-Conn I, making weight, computer welterweight tournament, Dempsey-Marciano, Holyfield-Foreman (color).
Oct. 1991: **A Hit Again-How Far Can Thomas Hearns Go?** Plus: Battling Levinsky, Oba Carr, Dave McAuley, Muhammad Ali, Lou Ambers, Luther McCarty, ethnic matchups, computer light heavy tournament, Cerdan-Hagler, Rocky Marciano (color).
Nov. 1991: **Mike Tyson's Fight For Greatness: Will November 8 Be His Moment?** Plus: Edwin Rosario, Jeff Fenech-Azumah Nelson, overrated and underrated, Giardello-Graham, Lennox Lewis, Marcel Cerdan, Muhammad Ali (color).
Dec. 1991: **Evander Holyfield vs. Mike Tyson: Who Will Win And Why.** Plus: Eddie Aliano, Jack Britton, Muhammad Ali, Pernell Whitaker, rating the 44 world champions, Marcel Cerdan, Henry Cooper, Ezzard Charles-Jersey Joe Walcott (color).
Jan. 1992: **Our Exclusive Annual Report: The State Of The Game.** Plus: Jerry Quarry, Julio Cesar Chavez, Mysterious Billy Smith, Joey Gamache, moving up in weight, Billy Conn-Michael Spinks, Joe Louis (color).

**MARCH 1992**

**March 1992: Turning Heads-Ray Mercer Makes His Statement To The Heavyweights.** Plus: Lou Nova, 1980 Olympic team, boxing cards, Rodrigo Valdes, *Ring's* New Year's wish, Joe Louis-Muhammad Ali, Jack Dempsey (color).
**April 1992: Is Evander Holyfield Tough Enough To Stay On Top?** Plus: Buddy McGirt, George Foreman, Toney-McCallum, referees, Marvin Hart, Al Hostak, Eusebio Pedroza-Salvador Sanchez, Ketchel-Johnson (color).
**May 1992: Fighter Of The Year: James Toney.** Plus: Roy Jones, Rocky Graziano, longest title reigns, Myung Woo Yuh & Khaosai Galaxy, James Warring, Billy Soose, Duran-Chavez, Marvin Hagler (color).
**June 1992: After Mike Tyson's Conviction: What Now?** Plus: Buck Smith, Billy Graham, Holmes-Mercer, Enrique Pinder & Hilario Zapata, Toney-Tiberi, Foreman-Liston, Tyson (color).
**July 1992: Does Larry Holmes Deserve A Title Shot?** Plus: Nelson-Fenech II, Tracy Patterson, Kelley-Dorsey, fat fighters, Buchanan-Camacho, Holmes-Ali (color).
**Aug. 1992: Larry Holmes On The Big Fight: "I See Me Takin' Holyfield Outta There."** Plus: Iran Barkley, Carnival of Champions, Oscar De La Hoya, Haugen-Mancini, Foreman-Stewart, Harry Greb, Gene Tunney (color).
**Sept. 1992: Julio Cesar Chavez: Unbeaten At 80-0, But What If He Had To Fight The Legends?** Plus: Bobby Czyz, Genaro Hernandez & Nicky Acevedo, alternate careers, Norris-Taylor, Tommy Gibbons, Sugar Ray Robinson (color).
**Oct. 1992: The Supreme Dream: The Heavyweight Hopes Of The Heavyweight Hopefuls.** Plus: Kevin Kelley, All-Time Top 10: South Africa, Meldrick Taylor, Sharmba Mitchell, Bob Foster, Eder Jofre, Max Baer (color).
**Nov. 1992: Who'll Stop The Reign? Is Riddick Bowe The Next Heavyweight Champion?** Plus: Mike Tyson, Tommy Morrison, Chavez-Camacho preview, All-Time Top 10: Australia, Tracy Patterson, Pat Barrett, Knockout Brown, Corbett-Sullivan (color).
**Dec. 1992: Foreman vs. Morrison: Should This Fight Happen ... Will You Watch It?** Plus: Ruddock-Lewis preview, Julian Jackson, Al Cole, Jack Johnson, Jack Dempsey Museum, Randolph Turpin, Olympic recap, Floyd Patterson (color).
**Jan. 1993: Slammin' 'n' Jammin'—Bowe & Holyfield Go One On One.** Plus: The State Of The Game, Gene Fullmer, Chavez-Camacho, Sullivan & Fitzsimmons, Bigfoot Martin, Carmen Basilio (color).
**Feb. 1993: America's Tribute To The Brown Bomber: Joe Louis.** Plus: Virgil Hill, Junior Jones, Roger Mayweather, Chicago boxing, Orlando Zulueta, Jose Napoles (color).
**March 1993: From Question Man To Answer Man: Riddick Bowe Leaves No Doubts.** Plus: Lennox Lewis, Lopez-Gamache, Frank Bruno, Rocky Kansas, Frank Fletcher, Crisanto Espana, Bowe-Lewis (color).
**April 1993: Riddick Bowe: Fighter Of The Year.** Plus: "Grand Slam" fight card, Toney-Barkley preview, Morris East, Joe Louis-John Henry Lewis, Argentina's All-Time Top 10, Fighters of the Year (color).
**May 1993: Oscar De La Hoya's Sprint To The Title: Is He Good Enough Now?** Plus: *The Ring* poll, Freddie Pendleton, Carbajal-Gonzales preview, Benny Leonard, Charley Burley, Lennox Lewis (color).

**JUNE 1993**

**June 1993: Riddick Bowe, The Man, By LeRoy Neiman.** Plus: Ireland's Top 10, Paul Hodkinson, Ray Mercer, James Toney-Iran Barkley, Kennedy McKinney, LeRoy Neiman (color).
**Aug. 1993: A Ring Exclusive: Julio Cesar Chavez Speaks Out.** Plus: Bobby Czyz, 10 Hardest Punchers in Boxing, Rafael Ruelas, Carmen Basilio, Closing of the Fifth Street Gym, Sugar Ray Leonard (color).
**Sept. 1993: Lennox Lewis' First Title Defense: Beating Tucker Was The Easy Part.** Plus: Mexico's Top 10, Sergei Artemiev, Julio Cesar Vasquez, Gerald McClellan-Julian Jackson, Michael Spinks (color).
**Nov. 1993: Julio Cesar Chavez: He Crushed Haugen, Annihilated Alli, Is Whitaker Next?** Plus: Marvin Hagler, Evander Holyfield, John-John Molina, Boxing's Training Tricks, Final Show at Madison Square Garden.
**Dec. 1993: What If Mike Tyson Had Never Gone To Jail?** Plus: Freddie Pendleton, Michael Moorer & Tommy Morrison, Willie Pep, Ed Dunkhorst, Cuba's Top 10, Tyson-Spinks (color).


☐ Apr/80
☐ Aug/82
☐ Sep/82
☐ Jan/83
☐ Feb/83
☐ May/83
**All 3 $14**
☐ Feb/84
☐ Jul/84
☐ Oct/84
**All 3 $14**
☐ Jan/85
☐ Feb/85
☐ May/85
☐ Jun/85
☐ Aug/85
☐ Oct/85

☐ Nov/85
**All 7 $28**
☐ Jan/86
☐ Apr/86
☐ Jun/86
☐ Jul/86
☐ Aug/86
☐ Sep/86
☐ Oct/86
☐ Dec/86
**All 8 $31**
☐ May/87
☐ Jun/87
☐ Jul/87
☐ Sep/87
☐ Oct/87
☐ Dec/87
**All 6 $25**

☐ Jan/88
☐ Feb/88
☐ Apr/88
☐ May/88
☐ Jun/88
☐ Sep/88
☐ Oct/88
☐ Nov/88
**All 8 $31**
☐ Jan/89
☐ Mar/89
☐ May/89
**All 3 $14**
☐ Jan/90
☐ Feb/90
☐ Mar/90
☐ Apr/90
☐ Jun/90
☐ Jul/90
☐ Aug/90

☐ Sep/90
☐ Oct/90
☐ Nov/90
☐ Dec/90
**All 11 $40**
☐ Jan/91
☐ Feb/91
☐ Mar/91
☐ Apr/91
☐ May/91
☐ Jun/91
☐ Jul/91
☐ Aug/91
☐ Oct/91
☐ Nov/91
☐ Dec/91
**All 11 $40**
☐ Jan/92
☐ Mar/92
☐ Apr/92

☐ May/92
☐ Jun/92
☐ Jul/92
☐ Aug/92
☐ Sep/92
☐ Oct/92
☐ Nov/92
☐ Dec/92
**All 11 $40**
☐ Jan/93
☐ Feb/93
☐ Mar/93
☐ Apr/93
☐ May/93
☐ Jun/93
☐ Aug/93
☐ Sep/93
☐ Nov/93
☐ Dec/93
**All 10 $37**

In case of sellout, indicate two substitute choices: _____ _____

Please send me the back issues I have checked off. I have enclosed $5 for each issue as payment in full or provided my credit card number to charge my purchase ($20 minimum). Send To:

**LONDON PUBLISHING CO.**
**P.O. BOX 956**
**FT. WASHINGTON, PA 19034**

☐ Check or money order (enclosed and payable to London Publishing Co.)
☐ VISA # _____
☐ MasterCard # _____
Expiration Date: __/__ MO/YR

ONLY $5 EACH

Name _____
Address _____ Apt. _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____

For all orders except the U.S., you must add $1.50 for every back issue to be sent boat mail, and $3.00 for every back issue to be sent airmail. Int'l money order in U.S. funds only. Please allow 3-4 weeks for delivery.

1739/10-93

# The Ring Ratings

*Oliver McCall*

*James Toney*

*Reggie Johnson*

*Miguel A. Gonzalez*

*Yung Kyun Park*

*Julio Borboa*

## How Our Ratings Are Compiled

**In each division, fighters are ranked according to their abilities and accomplishments.**

**Being champion does not necessarily mean a fighter will be rated at the top of his weight class.**

**These ratings reflect how the best fighters in the world rate against one another.**

**Ratings By The Editors**

### HEAVYWEIGHTS
*Weight Unlimited*

1. **EVANDER HOLYFIELD** — Atlanta, GA *30-1 (WBA/IBF Champ)*
2. **RIDDICK BOWE** — Fort Washington, MD *34-1*
3. **LENNOX LEWIS** — England *24-0 (WBC Champ)*
4. **MICHAEL MOORER** — Detroit, MI *34-0*
5. **MICHAEL BENTT** — Cambria Heights, NY *11-1*
6. **OLIVER McCALL** — Chicago, IL *23-5*
7. **RAZOR RUDDUCK** — Ft. Lauderdale, FL *28-4-1*
8. **RAY MERCER** — Vernon Valley, NJ *23-2*
9. **PHIL JACKSON** — Miami, FL *30-1*
10. **TOMMY MORRISON** — Merriam, KS *37-2*

### CRUISERWEIGHTS
*Weight Limit: 195 pounds*

1. **ORLIN NORRIS** — Campo, CA *39-3 (WBA Champ)*
2. **ANACLET WAMBA** — France *40-2 (WBC Champ)*
3. **AL COLE** — Spring Valley, NY *24-1 (IBF Champ)*
4. **ARTHUR WILLIAMS** — Las Vegas, NV *21-1-1*
5. **THOMAS HEARNS** — Detroit, MI *51-4-1*
6. **NATE MILLER** — Philadelphia, PA *23-3*
7. **MASSIMILIANO DURAN** — Italy *19-4*
8. **AKIM TAFER** — France *17-4*
9. **ROBERT DANIELS** — Miami, FL *24-2-1*
10. **KENNY KEENE** — Emmett, ID *25-0*

### LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
*Weight limit: 175 pounds*

1. **VIRGIL HILL** — Bismarck, ND *38-1 (WBA Champ)*
2. **HENRY MASKE** — Germany *21-0 (IBF Champ)*
3. **JEFF HARDING** — Australia *23-1 (WBC Champ)*
4. **PRINCE CHARLES WILLIAMS** — Mansfield, OH *35-5-2*
5. **LEEONZER BARBER** — Detroit, MI *18-1*
6. **MIKE McCALLUM** — Brooklyn, NY *45-2-1*
7. **EGERTON MARCUS** — Canada *12-0*
8. **FRANK TATE** — Houston, TX *35-3*
9. **ERNESTO MAGDALENO** — Westminster, CA *17-0-1*
10. **FABRICE TIOZZO** — France *27-1*

### SUPER MIDDLEWEIGHTS
*Weight Limit: 168 pounds*

1. **JAMES TONEY** — Ann Arbor, MI *42-0-2 (IBF Champ)*
2. **MICHAEL NUNN** — Davenport, IA *42-1 (WBA Champ)*
3. **CHRIS EUBANK** — England *36-0-1*
4. **NIGEL BENN** — England *34-2-1 (WBC Champ)*
5. **TIM LITTLES** — Flint, MI *23-0*
6. **FRANK LILES** — N. Hollywood, CA *24-1*
7. **TONY THORNTON** — Glassboro, NJ *32-6-1*
8. **ANTOINE BYRD** — Los Angeles, CA *24-4-1*
9. **DARRIN VAN HORN** — Lexington, KY *53-3*
10. **VINCENZO NARDIELLO** — Italy *24-2*

### MIDDLEWEIGHTS
*Weight Limit: 160 pounds*

1. **ROY JONES** — Pensacola, FL *24-0 (IBF Champ)*
2. **GERALD McCLELLAN** — Freeport, IL *29-2 (WBC Champ)*
3. **JOHN DAVID JACKSON** — Seattle, WA *30-0 (WBA Champ)*
4. **REGGIE JOHNSON** — Houston, TX *34-3-1*
5. **JULIAN JACKSON** — Virgin Islands *48-2*
6. **THOMAS TATE** — Houston, TX *30-2*
7. **LAMAR PARKS** — Greeneville, SC *27-1*
8. **BERNARD HOPKINS** — Philadelphia, PA *24-2*
9. **VINNY PAZIENZA** — Cranston, RI *36-5*
10. **OTIS GRANT** — Canada *22-0*

## JR. MIDDLEWEIGHTS
*Weight Limit: 154 pounds*

1. SIMON BROWN
Mount Airy, MD 40-2 (WBC Champ)
2. JULIO CESAR VASQUEZ
Argentina 45-1 (WBA Champ)
3. GIANFRANCO ROSI
Italy 57-3 (IBF Champ)
4. VERNO PHILLIPS
New York, NY 20-5
5. TERRY NORRIS
Mission Valley, CA 36-4
6. CARL DANIELS
St. Louis, MO 30-1
7. AARON DAVIS
Bronx, NY 38-2
8. RONALD WRIGHT
St. Petersburg, FL 23-0
9. JULIO CESAR GREEN
Brooklyn, NY 14-1
10. JAVIER CASTILLEJOS
Spain 31-2

## WELTERWEIGHTS
*Weight Limit: 147 pounds*

1. PERNELL WHITAKER
Norfolk, VA 32-1-1 (WBC Champ)
2. FELIX TRINIDAD
Puerto Rico 22-0 (IBF Champ)
3. CRISANTO ESPANA
N. Ireland 30-0 (WBA Champ)
4. BUDDY McGIRT
Hauppauge, NY 60-3-1
5. YORI BOY CAMPAS
Mexico 54-0
6. IKE QUARTEY
Ghana 25-0
7. WILFREDO RIVERA
Puerto Rico 17-0-1
8. OBA CARR
Detroit, MI 29-0
9. LARRY BARNES
Mt. Vernon, NY 30-1
10. ANTHONY JONES
Detroit, MI 33-5-1

## JR. WELTERWEIGHTS
*Weight Limit: 140 pounds*

1. FRANKIE RANDALL
Morristown, TN 49-2-1 (WBC Champ)
2. JULIO CESAR CHAVEZ
Mexico 89-1-1
3. CHARLES MURRAY
Rochester, NY 31-1 (IBF Champ)
4. JUAN COGGI
Argentina 65-2-2 (WBA Champ)
5. ZACK PADILLA
Azusa, CA 19-1-1
6. KOSTYA TSZYU
Australia 11-0
7. CARLOS GONZALEZ
Mexico 37-1
8. DAVID KAMAU
Los Angeles, CA 22-0
9. TONY LOPEZ
Sacramento, CA 44-4-1
10. EDER GONZALEZ
Colombia 21-4-2

## LIGHTWEIGHTS
*Weight Limit: 135 pounds*

1. MIGUEL ANGEL GONZALEZ
Mexico 30-0 (WBC Champ)
2. FREDDIE PENDLETON
Miami, FL 35-18-4 (IBF Champ)
3. NAZAROV OLZUBEK
Japan 19-0 (WBA Champ)
4. RAFAEL RUELAS
Arleta, CA 39-1
5. SHARMBA MITCHELL
Takoma Park, MD 30-0
6. DINGAAN THOBELA
South Africa 29-2-1
7. JOEY GAMACHE
Lewiston, ME 33-1
8. JEAN-BAPTISTE MENDY
France 45-4-2
9. MIGUEL JULIO
Colombia 24-1-1
10. LEAVANDER JOHNSON
Atlantic City, NJ 20-0-1

## JR. LIGHTWEIGHTS
*Weight Limit: 130 pounds*

1. AZUMAH NELSON
Ghana 36-2-2 (WBC Champ)
2. GENARO HERNANDEZ
Los Angeles, CA 29-0-1 (WBA Champ)
3. JOHN-JOHN MOLINA
Puerto Rico 34-3 (IBF Champ)
4. CALVIN GROVE
Coatesville, PA 45-5
5. GABE RUELAS
Arleta, CA 35-2
6. OSCAR DE LA HOYA
Montebello, CA 11-0
7. JIMMI BREDAHL
Denmark 17-0
8. VICTOR HUGO PAZ
Argentina 38-1-1
9. REGILIO TUUR
Whitestone, NY 33-3-1
10. MARCOS GUEVARA
Venezuela 21-2

## FEATHERWEIGHTS
*Weight Limit: 126 pounds*

1. KEVIN KELLEY
Flushing, NY 37-0 (WBC Champ)
2. TOM JOHNSON
Detroit, MI 34-2-1 (IBF Champ)
3. ELOY ROJAS
Venezuela 27-1-1 (WBA Champ)
4. GOYO VARGAS
Mexico 30-4-1
5. YUNG KYUN PARK
South Korea 25-2-1
6. JESSE JAMES LEIJA
San Antonio, TX 26-0-2
7. PAUL HODKINSON
England 22-2-1
8. ALEJANDRO GONZALEZ
Mexico 29-2-2
9. STEVE ROBINSON
Wales 16-9-1
10. FRANCISCO SEGURA
Coachella, CA 23-6-1

## JR. FEATHERWEIGHTS
*Weight Limit: 122 pounds*

1. KENNEDY McKINNEY
Las Vegas, NV 25-0-1 (IBF Champ)
2. TRACY PATTERSON
Highland, NY 49-2-1 (WBC Champ)
3. WILFREDO VASQUEZ
Puerto Rico 38-6-3 (WBA Champ)
4. WELCOME NCITA
South Africa 32-1
5. JULIO GERVACIO
Puerto Rico 28-3-2
6. JESSE BENAVIDES
Corpus Christi, TX 38-3-1
7. JESUS SALUD
San Diego, CA 45-6
8. CESAR SOTO
Mexico 36-5-2
9. YUICHI KASAI
Japan 18-0-1
10. JAE WON CHOI
South Korea 18-0

## BANTAMWEIGHTS
*Weight Limit: 118 pounds*

1. ORLANDO CANIZALES
Laredo, TX 35-1-1 (IBF Champ)
2. JUNIOR JONES
Brooklyn, NY 32-0 (WBA Champ)
3. YASUEI YAKUSHIJI
Japan 20-2-1 (WBC Champ)
4. ELIECER JULIO
Colombia 24-1
5. JUNG IL BYUN
South Korea 10-1
6. RAFAEL DEL VALLE
Puerto Rico 15-0
7. VICTOR RABANALES
Mexico 34-12-2
8. VINCENZO BELCASTRO
Italy 25-5-3
9. GERARDO MARTINEZ
San Jose, CA 29-1
10. DAORUNG CHUWATANA
Thailand 49-4-2

## JR. BANTAMWEIGHTS
*Weight Limit: 115 pounds*

1. KATSUYA ONIZUKA
Japan 22-0 (WBA Champ)
2. JULIO BORBOA
Mexico 21-4 (IBF Champ)
3. JOSE LUIS BUENO
Mexico 22-3-1 (WBC Champ)
4. MARCO ANTONIO BARRERA
Mexico 28-0
5. SUNG KIL MOON
South Korea 20-2
6. KHAOYAI MAHASARAKAM
Thailand 45-4
7. JOHNNY BREDAHL
Denmark 20-0
8. ROBERT QUIROGA
San Antonio, TX 20-1
9. CARLOS SALAZAR
Argentina 30-4-3
10. KOTARO HAYASHI
Japan 12-3

## FLYWEIGHTS
*Weight Limit: 112 pounds*

1. YURI ARBACHAKOV
Japan 17-0 (WBC Champ)
2. DAVID GRIMAN
Venezuela 17-1 (WBA Champ)
3. PHICHIT SITHBANGPRACHAN
Thailand 17-0 (IBF Champ)
4. ISAIAS ZAMUDIO
Blythe, CA 35-4-1
5. JOSE LUIS ZEPEDA
Mexico 23-11-2
6. MARK JOHNSON
Washington, D.C. 16-1
7. SCOTTY OLSON
Las Vegas, NV 28-1
8. DANNY ROMERO
Albuquerque, NM 14-0
9. SAN SOW PLEONCHIT
Thailand 14-0
10. ROBBIE REGAN
Wales 11-1-3

## JR. FLYWEIGHTS
*Weight Limit: 108 pounds*

1. MICHAEL CARBAJAL
Phoenix, AZ 29-0 (WBC/IBF Champ)
2. HUMBERTO GONZALEZ
Mexico 37-2
3. LEO GAMEZ
Venezuela 24-3 (WBA Champ)
4. LEON SALAZAR
Panama 15-3-1
5. MELCHOR COB CASTRO
Mexico 37-4-3
6. JOSE DeJESUS
Puerto Rico 26-2-1
7. JESUS CHONG
Mexico 22-5
8. JUAN ANTONIO TORRES
Panama 19-3-1
9. ROBINSON CUESTA
Panama 23-1
10. ERIC GRIFFIN
Jasper, TN 10-1

## POUND FOR POUND

1. PERNELL WHITAKER
Welterweight
2. JAMES TONEY
Super Middleweight
3. MICHAEL CARBAJAL
Junior Flyweight
4. ORLANDO CANIZALES
Bantamweight
5. EVANDER HOLYFIELD
Heavyweight
6. RICARDO LOPEZ
Strawweight
7. FRANKIE RANDALL
Junior Welterweight
8. JULIO CESAR CHAVEZ
Junior Welterweight
9. ROY JONES
Middleweight
10. KENNEDY McKINNEY
Junior Featherweight

# New Faces

## PRO RECORD

| 1992 | | |
|---|---|---|
| Aug. 14 | Raul Hernandez, Phoenix, AZ | KO 1 |
| Aug. 18 | Mauro Betancourt, Phoenix | KO 1 |
| Aug. 29 | Alfredo Torres, Phoenix | KO 1 |
| Sept. 26 | Eduardo Avalos, Phoenix | KO 1 |
| Oct. 2 | Ruben Luzaniacla, Phoenix | KO 2 |
| Oct. 27 | Andres Aguilar, Phoenix | W 4 |

| 1993 | | |
|---|---|---|
| Jan. 15 | Oscar Jimenez, Phoenix | KO 1 |
| Feb. 16 | Aureo Dominguez, Phoenix | KO 5 |
| April 13 | Alberto Cantu, Bay St. Louis, MS | KO 3 |
| May 22 | Silverio Porras, Albuquerque | KO 2 |
| June 19 | Manuel Robles, Houston | W 6 |
| Aug. 9 | Orlando Malone, Albuquerque | KO 5 |
| Nov. 30 | Juan Cortez, Albuquerque | KO 1 |

| 1994 | | |
|---|---|---|
| Jan. 9 | Armando Diaz, Del Mar, CA | KO 9 |

| RECORD: | FIGHTS | WON | LOST | DREW | KO |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 14 | 14 | 0 | 0 | 12 |

# Danny Romero

## *Flyweight*

**By Phil Woolever**

More and more fistic observers are talking about how Danny "Kid Dynamita" Romero has exploded from out of nowhere onto the national scene. In Albuquerque, the fans have to smile when they hear that.

They've been aware of the young blaster's talent for quite some time now, and despite what some people may think, New Mexico isn't exactly the middle of oblivion. In fact, Romero has returned big-time excitement to the area. The 5'5" flyweight is only 19 years old, but he already displays a veteran's skills. Romero is poised to become a new sensation in the red-hot lighter divisions, and after signing with [illegible] Rank, exposure and opportunities are within reach.

Romero has been lacing up the gloves since was five. His outstanding amateur slate was 12 he won three regional Silver Gloves titles captured the national Junior Olym championship in '89 and '90. He also repres the United States in numerous competitions a the globe.

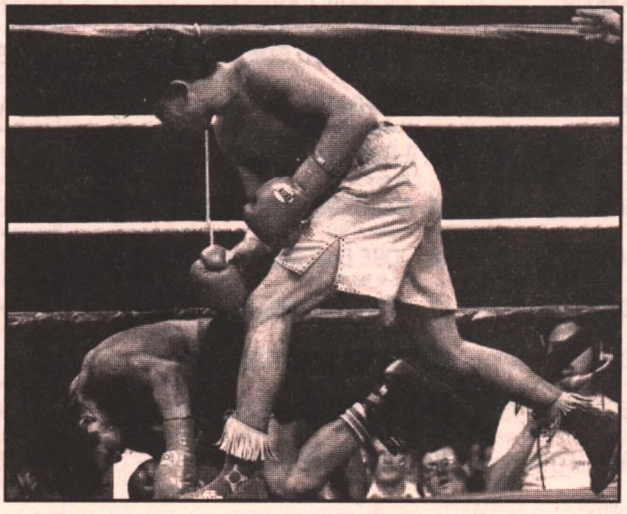
Romero's father Danny has overseen his career and training regimen from the beginn "Danny always had a pro style; I was surpris could adapt to amateur rules so successfully," Dad. "He never wanted to score points, just power shots. Now that counts for a lot more. he's maturing right on schedule."

Rounding out the team are uncles Ricky Louis Chavez. Their camp has been a first-c operation from the earliest sightings to now.

"The biggest difference I've noticed moving to the pros is how it's not so much a anymore, it's business," said Romero. "Boxing always the easy part. What's hard is all the rest comes with it. Everything's going super-fast now. We have to worry about rankin promotional considerations, the whole marke package."

Manager Cameron Dunkin has guided the past potential pitfalls, and now the course smoother. The Romero family has incorporate

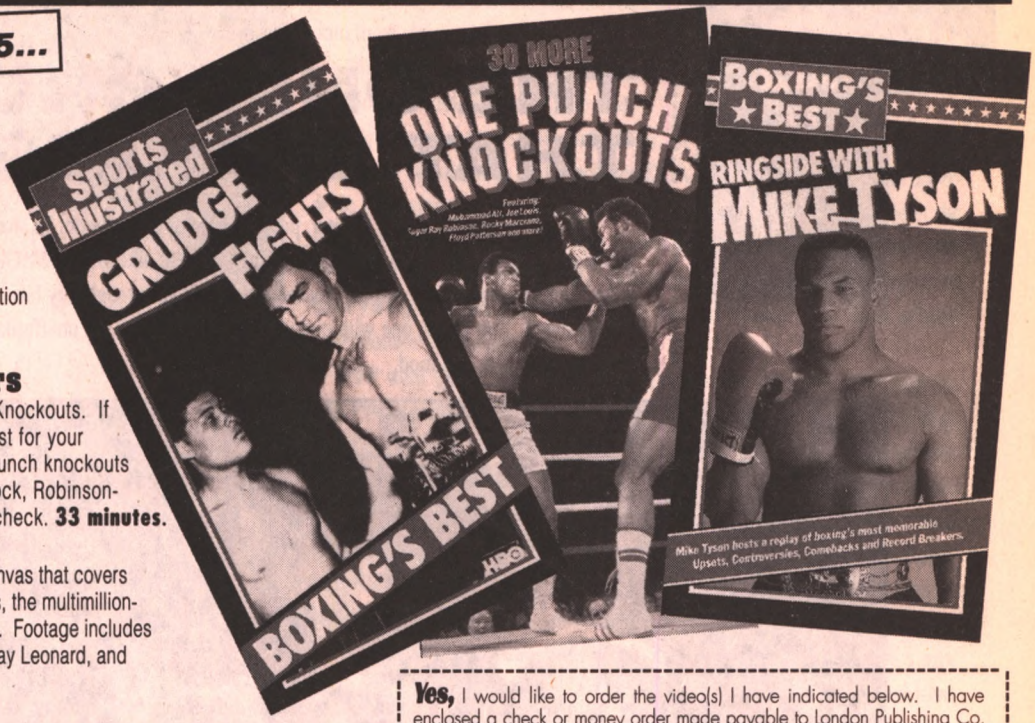
*(Continued on page*



*Romero hammers Armando Diaz to the canvas*

# Turn your television into a ringside seat with these action-packed BOXING VIDEOS!

**FOR A MERE $19.95...**




**UDGE FIGHTS**

greatest grudge fights in boxing history presented in this non-stop action video. Jack Dempsey try to regain the title from Tunney and Joe Louis seek revenge inst Max Schmeling. Watch Joe Walcott Ezzard Charles and Rocky Marciano in wars, the Ali Frazier trilogy, plus a collection rare footage that recounts boxing's most morable bouts. **58 minutes.**

**ORE ONE-PUNCH KNOCKOUTS**

exciting followup to Great One-Punch Knockouts. If like knockout action, this video is a must for your lection. You'll see these fantastic one-punch knockouts many more: Ali-Liston II, Louis-Braddock, Robinson-mer, Patterson-Johansson II, Louis-Paycheck. **33 minutes.**

**NGSIDE WITH MIKE TYSON**

e Tyson puts it all together in a colorful canvas that covers main events, the controversies, the upsets, the multimillion-lar gates, the records, and the comebacks. Footage includes rry Liston, Jake LaMotta, Ray Robinson, Ray Leonard, and uch more. **44 minutes.**

**E MIDDLEWEIGHTS**

most skillful and devastating middleweights in the history of boxing are profiled in this t-moving video. Watch stellar performances by Stanley Ketchel, Sugar Ray Robinson, and Marcel rdan. Also includes Rocky Graziano, Jake LaMotta, Carlos Monzon, and many others. Hosted by rt Gowdy and Floyd Patterson. **58 minutes.**

**OXING'S GREATEST CHAMPIONS**

atch wits with the Boxing Writers of America as they choose the best fighter of all-time from each vision and then debate who deserves the title of the Greatest Fighter of All-Time. Includes explosive ht footage of Henry Armstrong, Benny Leonard, and Roberto Duran in the lightweight division; elterweights Barney Ross, Henry Armstrong, and Ray Robinson; middleweights Mickey Walker, rlos Monzon, and Ray Robinson; light heavyweights Bob Fitzsimmons, Billy Conn, and Archie oore; heavyweights Muhammad Ali, Rocky Marciano, and Joe Louis. **60 minutes.**

**HE HEAVYWEIGHTS: "THE BIG PUNCHERS"**

The biggest draw in sports today is the heavyweight knockout artist. This hard-hitting video explores boxing's most famous punchers. A sample of the action included in this video are clips of Dempsey's avage victory over Willard, the second Louis-Schmeling fight, Marciano vs. Walcott, and Frazier vs. li. **59 minutes.**

**REAT ONE-PUNCH KNOCKOUTS**

You've got a ringside seat for a heart-stopping lineup of boxing's most exciting knockouts, including Muhammad Ali-George Foreman, Ezzard Charles-Joe Walcott, Jim Corbett-Bob Fitzsimmons, Rocky Marciano-Joe Walcott, Sugar Ray Robinson-Rocky Graziano, and many more. **30 minutes.**

**HE HEAVYWEIGHTS: THE STYLISTS**

Host Curt Gowdy highlights the careers of the sport's finest boxers. Beginning with Jim Corbett, you'll see challengers throughout history battle in some of the most striking film coverage ever assembled. Jack Johnson displays exquisite defensive skills, Floyd Patterson shows off his peek-a-boo style, Gene Tunney demonstrates the scientific approach to boxing, and Muhammad Ali exhibits the skills that made him "The Greatest," plus Walcott, Charles, and Louis. **57 minutes.**

**YSON AND THE HEAVYWEIGHTS**

Join Mike Tyson as he takes a tour through the history of the heavyweight division. Tyson adds his own insight as he analyzes the styles and lives of the men who wore the heavyweight crown before him. This fantastic video includes rare footage of Jack Johnson, Jack Dempsey, Joe Louis, Rocky Marciano, Muhammad Ali, and, of course, Tyson himself. **51 minutes.**

**Yes,** I would like to order the video(s) I have indicated below. I have enclosed a check or money order made payable to London Publishing Co. or provided my credit card information to charge my purchase.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ APT. # _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

☐ Check or money order *(enclosed and payable to London Publishing Co.)*

☐ VISA # _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

☐ MasterCard # _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

Expiration Date: ___/___ MO / YR

Signature _____

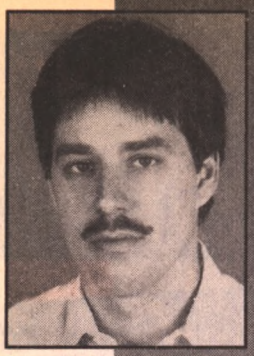
| TITLE | QTY. | PRICE | TOTAL |
|---|---|---|---|
| *The Middleweights* | | $19.95 | |
| *Boxing's Greatest Champions* | | $19.95 | |
| *Grudge Fights* | | $19.95 | |
| *The Heavyweights: "The Big Punchers"* | | $19.95 | |
| *30 Great One-Punch Knockouts* | | $19.95 | |
| *The Heavyweights: The Stylists* | | $19.95 | |
| *Ringside with Mike Tyson* | | $19.95 | |
| *Tyson and the Heavyweights* | | $19.95 | |
| *30 More One-Punch Knockouts* | | $19.95 | |
| | | SUB-TOTAL | |
| | | Add $3 per video for shipping & handling | |
| | | PA residents add 6% sales tax | |
| | | For orders outside the U. S., add $5 for each video ordered | |
| | | **TOTAL ENCLOSED** | |

***Send to:***

**LONDON PUBLISHING CO.**
**P O. BOX 956**
**FT. WASHINGTON, PA 19034**

*Allow 3-4 weeks for delivery. International money orders in U. S. funds only. All videos are VHS and NTSC system compatible only. PAL systems are not compatible. All tapes carry a 100% money-back guarantee against defects only. If tape is defective, please return it with a note specifying the defect.*

1771/10-93



# Ryan Out Loud

By Jeff Ryan

## THE ONLY CROWN THAT SPARKLES?

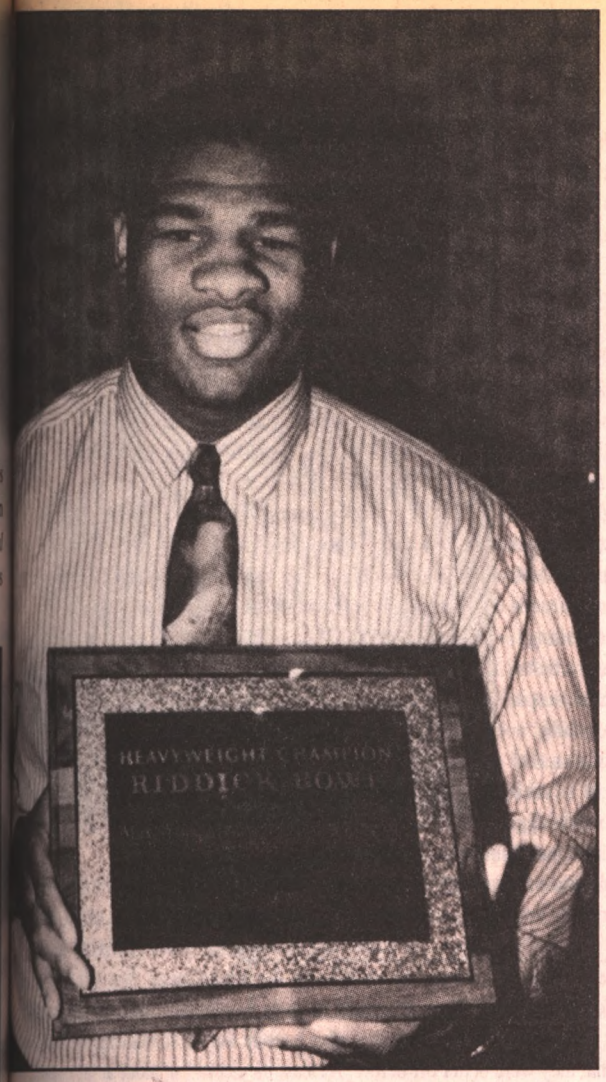
The title of Boxing's Best Fighter, pound for pound, should not be something mythical, like college footb national championship. It should be something concrete, like Buddy McGirt's chin. That's why a tournament i order. Not another dumb computer tourney—where every tough guy has a microchip on his shoulder—but a r boxing event. You know, one with pickpockets in the crowd, an unaffordable pay-per-view price tag, and a p room stocked with bad food.

*The 1993 matchup between world champions Pernell Whitaker and Julio Cesar Chavez was eagerly anticipa largely because the winner would be labeled the world's best fighter, pound for pound.*

We're pretty sure Pernell Whitaker is the best fighter in the civilized or uncivilized world, but we have n proof, do we? Maybe the punch of a 147-pound Michael Carbajal would starch him. Maybe the speed of a 14 pound Roy Jones would befuddle him. Or maybe not. Maybe Florida State *was* the deserving number one, maybe the college football pollsters were crazy.

This business about just who is the pugilist de resistance should be settled in the proper Forum, preferab Great Western. How could we possibly match everybody up? Easy. Didn't you ever hear of handicaps?

That's right, Whitaker gets to soak his handwraps in plaster of Paris before his clash with James Ton Lennox Lewis wears 32-ounce gloves against Simon Brown, Tonya Harding's goons whack the usually mobi




*Riddick Bowe had established himself as a dominant, unified, and long-reigning heavyweight champion instead of losing to Evander Holyfield, there would be a lot less debate about the mythical pound-for-pound title.*

rgil Hill across the knees before Hill faces Kennedy McKinney, and for Ricardo Lopez-Azumah Nelson showdown, all three judges must be pez' blood relatives.

Sounds too silly? Hey, but isn't that what we want? We've become wnright obsessed with this pound-for-pound stuff. (Or, as it will be ferred to henceforth in this column, PFP.) Al Bernstein and Larry chant talk about this pound and that pound more often than Jenny Craig.

ny Pazienza beats Gilbert Dele—that's not Roy Jones misspelled, it's *lbert Dele*—and then tells this magazine he should be in its PFP top 10!

haker "draws" with Chavez but doesn't really fret over being robbed of greatest win. Why? Because "Sweet Pea" realizes that regardless of the ring, he has lifted the coveted PFP crown.

This is a fairly new phenomenon, this PFP fixation. No one I spoke with seem to recall, say, Sugar Ray Leonard proclaiming himself the PFP g at any time during his many reigns, even though he certainly had the ht to do so. What, then, has been responsible for all this focus on an tract, subjective designation that is open to more interpretation than the cs to "Louie Louie"?

Consider it another offshoot of the era of title proliferation, champions h no identities, and a heavyweight title picture that has become fuzzy once again. Define it as more fallout from the nuclear attacks against order and common sense that were launched by the armies of the WBA, WBC, and IBF several years ago.

Fifty-one thrones. Seventeen weight classes. We've heard it so often that we can just ... zzzzzzzz. But it's true. ABC's respected analyst, Alex Wallau, has said the singlemost damaging wound of the many boxing has inflicted upon itself in the past 20 years is the splitting of each championship into three sleazy pieces.

"It makes titles meaningless and encourages the best fighters in a division to avoid each other," he said.

Despite the confusion and chaos, at least when the heavyweight champion is dominant, PFP becomes DOA. While hardly being the sport-wide obsession that it is today, PFP did enjoy some brief popularity in the mid-'80s, just when Donald Curry started winning impressively in the wake of Leonard's retirement. PFP debate was a palatable alternative to heavyweight titles that were being passed around like high school cheerleaders' phone numbers.

PFP went out of style when Mike Tyson made the focus of boxing the heavyweight crown, not which little guy had the best technique and polish. The fight game's value system has digressed to where it is today because after Tyson fell to Buster Douglas, the heavyweight title gradually lost more and more of its luster. First, Douglas got fattened and flattened, then Holyfield began searching the Salvation Army shelters for his challengers, then Riddick Bowe came along and made what proved to be the biggest blunder of all.

Bowe was charismatic and big, slick and powerful. No Ali, but a guy who was pretty entertaining when he pulled out the tracing paper and tried to duplicate some of the master's best routines. Bowe was supposed to rescue the heavyweight crown, but while trying to perform CPR, he almost killed it.

Bowe blew it that day in England, when he tossed his WBC title belt in a trash can. You read that right. "Big Daddy" should have either a) wheeled in a dumpster, ditched all three of his straps in it, and thus redefined the position of heavyweight champion, or b) kept them all around his ample waist and reigned as undisputed ruler. Instead, Bowe fragmented the title once again. If that's not a felony, it should be.

Practically overnight, Lennox Lewis went from being an attractive and marketable top contender to paper champion. On the record, that meant talk of unification. Off the record, it meant both sides would delay a matchup as long as possible. The promoters called it building anticipation. Everyone else called it boring as hell.

Everything in boxing is supposed to be cyclical (though it seems like the bad always lingers a lot longer than the good), so, supposedly, the heavyweight crown will again have meaning one day. Maybe Holyfield beats Lewis to unify. Perhaps Moorer beats Holyfield and Lewis. Or Tyson walks out of prison, trades in his tin cup for a protective cup, and thrashes them all.

In the absence of any of those scenarios, that tournament still seems like a splendid idea. Let's see, Holyfield has to wear an Atlanta Braves baseball cap pulled down over his eyes against Genaro Hernandez, Carbajal gets to ride on the shoulders of Roy Jones while throwing punches at Al Cole ...

Maybe there's even room for Vinny Paz in this thing, after all. Against, oh, let's say Michael Moorer. All Moorer has to do is wear Vinny's old halo into the ring and then promise to act like an angel. ■

By Stanley Weston
Publisher, THE RING Magazine

# Time CAPSULES

## BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF HIS ROOTS

(January 1, 1921)

Soon after Jack Dempsey made his second title defense by knocking out brave Bill Brennan in 12 rounds in New York, the heavyweight champion finally kept the promise he had made to his mother by visiting his birthplace in the remote Colorado mining bend-in-the-road called Manassa.

It was early afternoon on the day after Christmas, 1920, when Jack's train ground to a stop alongside the tiny shack that was Manassa's railroad station. A gathering of about 20, not including the five-piece school band, greeted the now world-famous local hero, and Mom had his favorite meal of roast turkey with that special corn bread stuffing only she could make, sweet potatoes, pickled beets, and plum pudding all ready and waiting for the son she called Jake.

Dempsey relished the peace and quiet of the place, far removed from the relentless mobs that infringed on his privacy in the real world. "You have to pay a price for everything; nobody gets anything for nothing," he said to his gangling older brother Bernie as they sat around the pot-bellied stove that was still the only heat source, just as it had been when Jack was born in the modest two-room farm house. Bernie was much bigger than Jack, with huge hands and arms so long he never found a suit that didn't make him look like the Frankenstein monster.

"What do you mean, Jack?" Bernie asked, a confused look on his wrinkled face. "When everybody knows you wherever you go, you want to be alone," Jack replied. "But unless you live in a cave ... or come back to Manassa, where everybody knows you, but there are only a couple dozen folks in the whole town. That's fun." The champion forced a smile. "Sure, hundreds of guys would give their right arms to trade places with me. But I guarantee that after a while they'd be thinking they made a mistake; that they were better off before. At least they could sit alone at the counter in a diner and have their coffee in peace."

As the family was devouring Ma Dempsey's specialties there was a knock on the door. Bernie answered. "Good day," the stranger said. "Is Jack Dempsey here?" Jack wiped the gravy from his chin. "What can I do for you?" The stranger was dressed like something from outer space. He wore a leather jacket and a leather helmet, with goggles strapped around his forehead. Mom invited the stranger "to join us for dinner on this most joyous of holidays."

The stranger explained he was an airline pilot and had flown Jennys in France during the war. Claimed he had shot down six German fighters in dog fights over the Western front. "Now I'm doing what so many of my old buddies are doing, barnstorming all over the country." Jack lifted a glass of apple cider and toasted the young man: "You boys did a great job over there. America owes you a lot."

The pilot had come to invite the champion on a plane ride over Manassa. "You'll see this house where you were born like nobody has seen it, from a thousand feet in the air." The champion was intrigued by the idea. "Thanks very much," he said. "I'd really like to do it. When?" The pilot suggested New Year's Day, "if the weather holds."

The weather held. On the morning of January 1, 1921, the flyer appeared at the Dempsey house carrying a complete flying outfit for the champion to wear. This picture was taken just before takeoff, at about 11:30 a.m. Jack is on the right. Sadly, our research failed to reveal the handsome young pilot's name. For more than 45 minutes the plane zigzagged over the Colorado countryside, dipping low time and again over the Dempsey house to give the heavyweight champion of the world even closer looks at the place where he had been spawned.

After landing, Jack shook the pilot's hand, grinned broadly, and said, "I never enjoyed myself so much." Then he added, "Well, maybe when I won the title from [Jess] Willard in '19. I had a pretty good time that day, too."

## LOOKS ARE DECEIVING

(Circa 1890)

If you happened to see that little mouse of a fellow (left) about to cross a busy intersection, you'd take pity and offer to help him to safety. Were he alive today he could easily qualify to appear in one of those heart-jerking TV commercials to help the starving. Not in your wildest dreams could you guess that this mite, who was in the prime of his life 100 years ago, is to this day considered one of the most extraordinary boxers who ever lived, and whose autograph on a scrap of paper would fetch about $1,500 in today's memorabilia market.

They called him "Little Chocolate." (He despised the tag.) "I have a Christian name," he would complain. "George Dixon." It was a name familiar to sports fans throughout the world, a name linked to genius. Born in Nova Scotia, Canada, in 1870, George Dixon, ranging in weight from 95 to 122 pounds, collected three world championships—flyweight, bantamweight, and featherweight—during a career that spanned 20 years (1886-1906). *The Ring Record Book* credits him with 130 fights, one of which went 70 flawless rounds, but 300 calls to battle would be more realistic. And there wasn't one world-class fighter within George's weight range with whom he did not eagerly exchange skills. In 1901, when he was 31 years old, he fought the equally brilliant Abe Attell (14 years his junior) three times—two draws and one hotly contested loss by decision. Class act that Dixon was, he considered the highlight of his career not any of his trunkload of sterling victories, but rather his three draw with the immortal Young Griffo, an alcoholic so gifted that many experts of that time called him "the greatest natural-born master boxer of all-time."

Dixon fought in most major American cities and throughout the United Kingdom. When he returned from his last European trip in 1904, his lifelong friend and manager, Tom O'Rourke (shown with George in this studio photograph), told a *Boston Globe* columnist that Dixon had earned well over $250,000 in his career. But when the legendary former champion died in New York City at age 38 in 1909, he was penniless. Only generous contributions from sportsmen, including several former opponents, saved what was left of that remarkable little body from a pauper's grave.

## YOU CAN DO IT, RAY

(April 17, 1957)

Former middleweight champion Sugar Ray Robinson was having a helluva time trying to whip his 36-year-old body into shape for what he predicted would be "the fight of my life." So when another great former champ unexpectedly popped into his Greenwood Lake, New York, training camp to add moral support and maybe a little expert advice, Robinson welcomed Barney Ross like a long-lost brother.

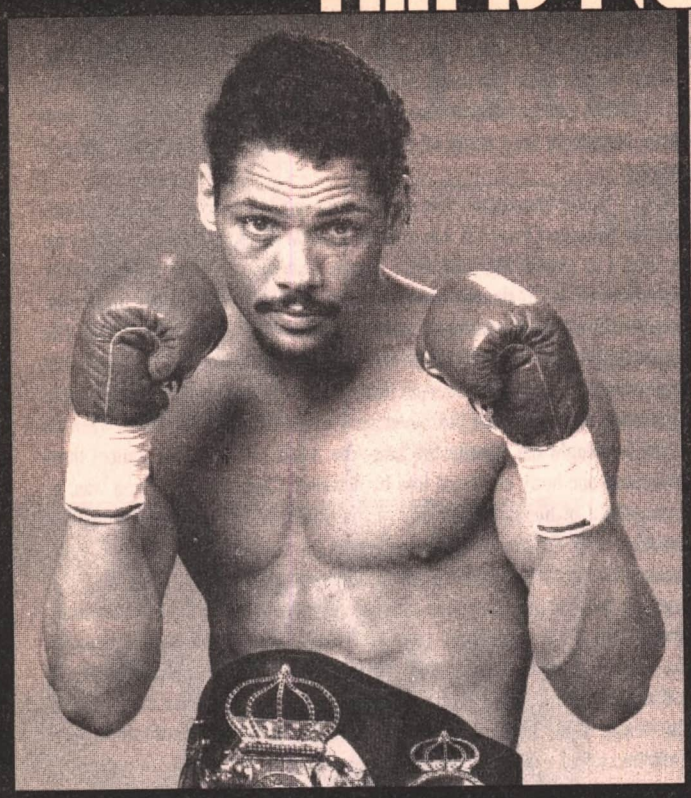
Four months earlier, Ray had lost a decision, and his middleweight crown, to rough, tough brawler Gene Fullmer in a rousing upset. Now, with a return bout and a chance to regain the title less than two weeks away, Sugar was deeply concerned about his timing, his wind, and, to make things worse, "a sharp pain that keeps shooting from my thigh down to my calf in the right leg."

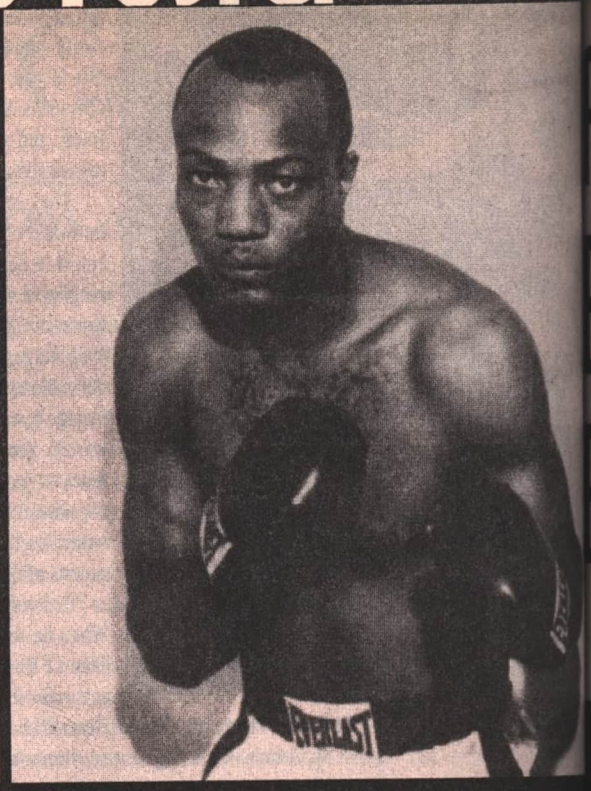
"Lay off for a day or two," Barney said. "Sometimes that works wonders. At least it did for me many times." Ray thought for a few seconds, then forced a smile. He liked the idea. "Maybe you got something there, Barney. Things can't get any worse."

The two hall of famers went into the tiny canteen at the rear of the pine-paneled gymnasium, where Robinson sipped a mug filled with the hot, aujus gravy that is drawn from roasted prime beef, a brew Ray always referred to as "my secret of long life." Ross, a notorious coffee addict, drank his favorite black brew. "I used to drink at least half-a-dozen cups a day, even when I was in training," Barney said. They shook hands and Ross headed for the exit, where he was confronted by a photographer. "Will you guys pose for a few shots out in the gym?" he asked. So Ray and Barney went through the motions that came so naturally, with a heavybag between them (see photo).

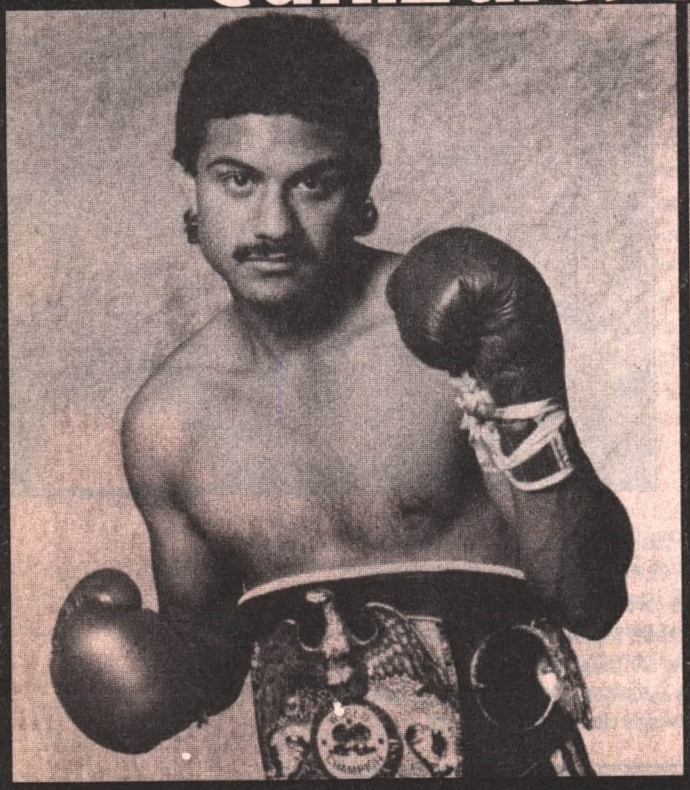
Robinson heeded his old friend's advice and took not one day off, but two. It must've worked. On May 1, he knocked out Fullmer in the fifth round in Chicago. The Sugarman was once again middleweight champion of the world.

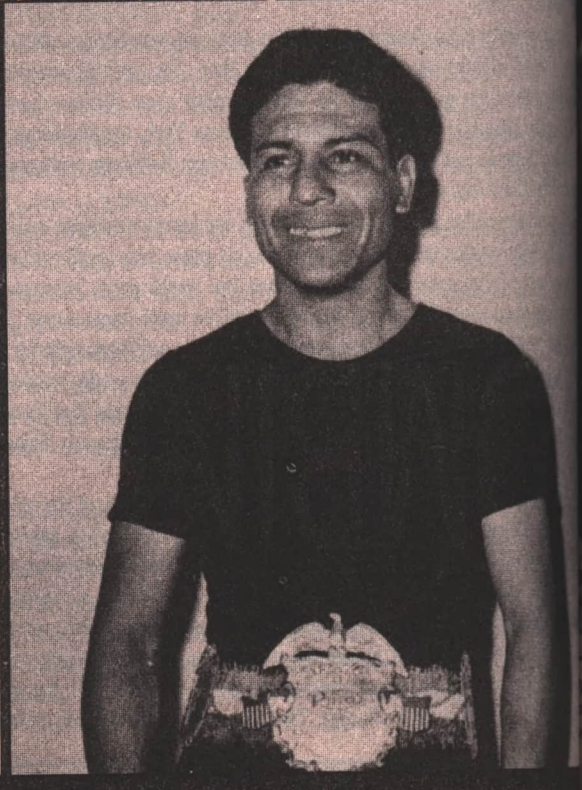
# Hill Is No Foster



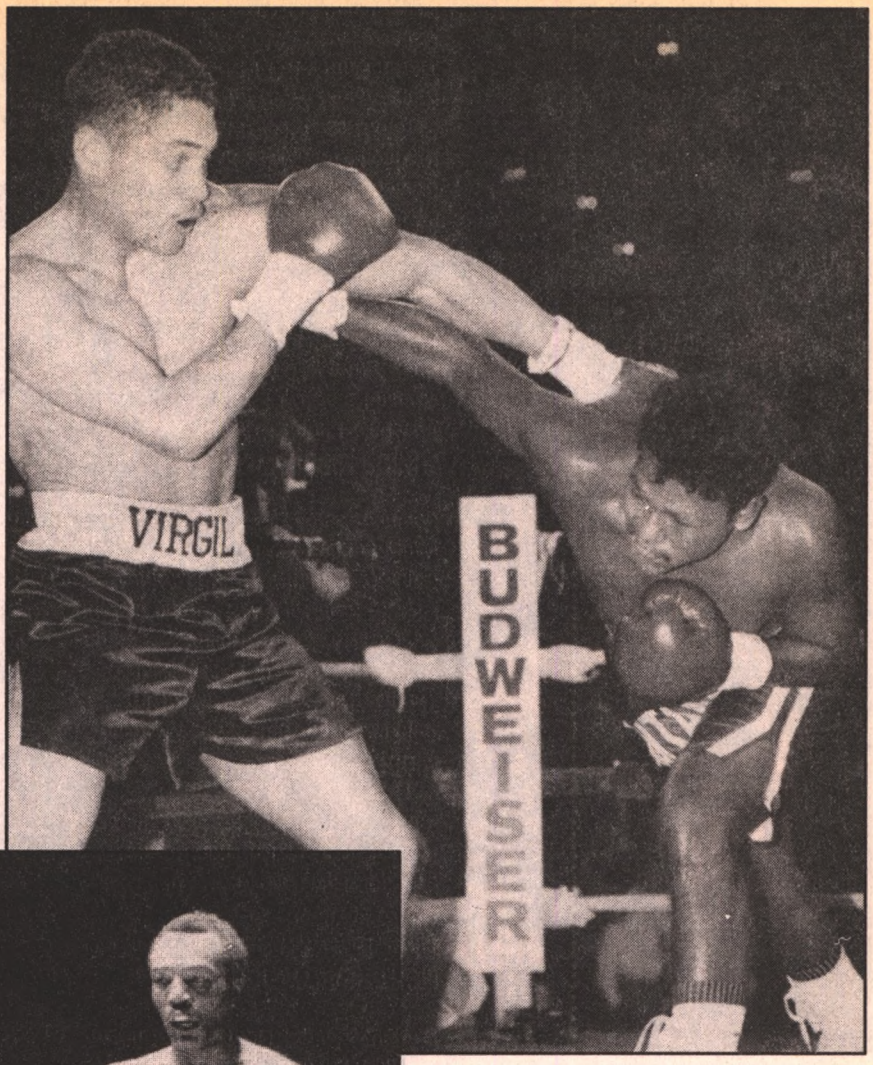


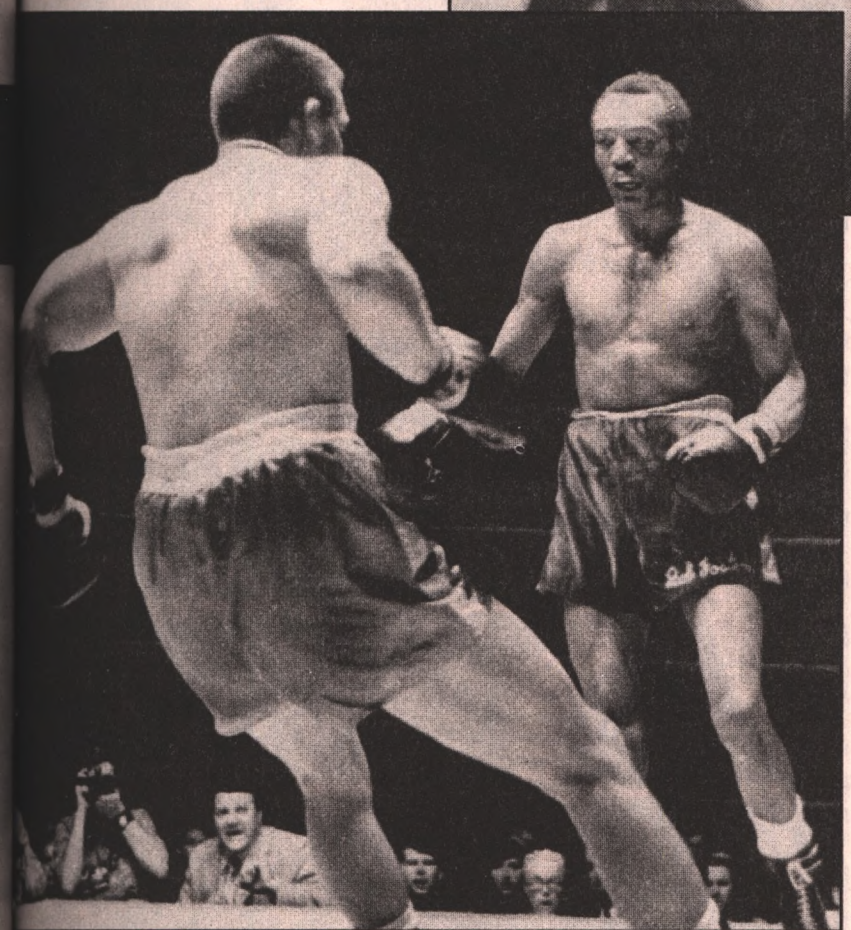

# Canizales Is No Ortiz





# RECORDS ARE MADE TO BE BROKEN, BUT . . .



*...right: Hill rejects the challenge of Mexico's Saul Montana. The WBA light heavyweight champion has ...sted on overmatched opposition, but in his defense, the division has been particularly weak. Above: ...ster kayos Mark Tessman in 1970. Unlike with Hill, nobody questioned Foster's quality of opposition.*

**By Nigel Collins**

Don't you just want to strangle TV boxing commentators? The drivel that pours out of their mouths is often enough to drive you ballistic, especially the bull they've been shoveling about WBA light heavyweight champion Virgil Hill surpassing Bob Foster's long-standing division record of 14 successful title defenses.

Give us a break, fellas. Comparing Hill's tainted string of defenses to Foster's magnificent run is like equating pyrite with gold. They're both shiny, but only one of them has any enduring value.

There has also been a lot of bunk bandied about on the tube regarding IBF bantamweight champion Orlando Canizales, who is closing in on Manuel Ortiz' 118-pound division record for successful defenses. Once again, likening Canizales' streak to Ortiz' is totally bogus.

Boxing has changed a lot since Foster domi-

*Above: Canizales punishes Eddie Rangel. For financial and political reasons, the IBF bantamweight king has failed to engage in unification bouts. Right: Ortiz, who made 19 successful defenses of the 118-pound title, hammers Dado Marino in 1949.*

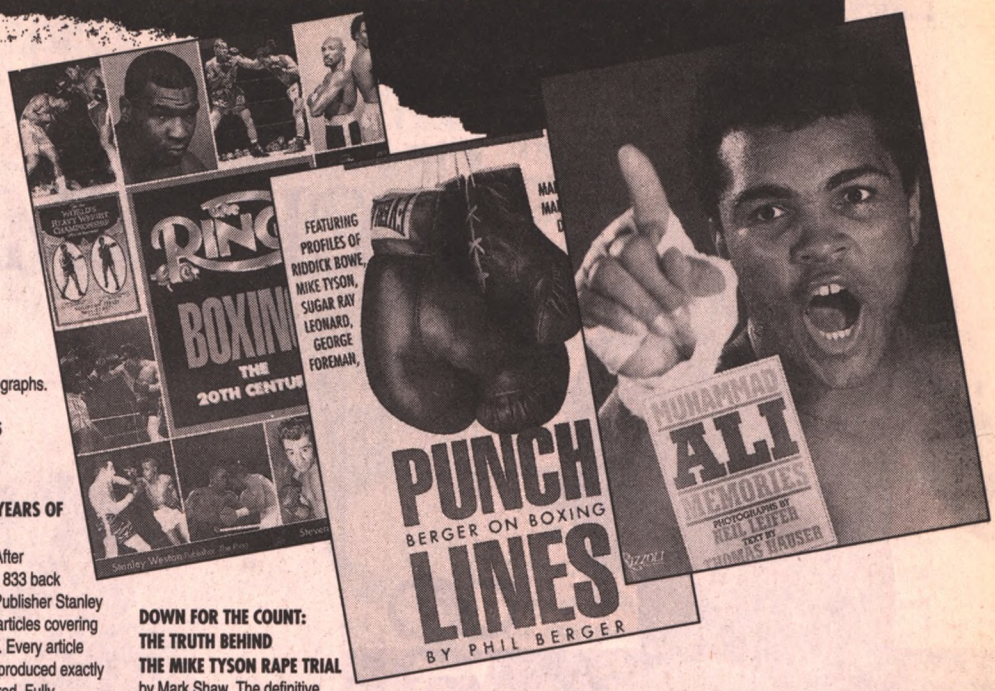
nated the 175-pound class during the 1970s, and, of course, even more since Ortiz ruled the bantie roost in the '40s. In Ortiz' day there were only the eight traditional divisions—heavyweight, light heavyweight, middleweight, welterweight, lightweight, featherweight, bantamweight, and flyweight. And only one champion per division. By the time Foster came along, the number of weight classes had expanded to 11; added were junior middleweight, junior welter, and junior light. And while the alphabet groups had already established themselves, the number of split titles had not yet reached the disturbing level of today.

With only a few titles to fight for, both the champions and contenders tended to be of a higher quality than today. There were relatively few championship bouts featuring unqualified challengers like those who have inflated the stats

*(Continued on page 78)*

# THE BEST IN BOXING BOOKS

## AT SCOUNT PRICES




**...E BABYLON**
...y Collins. The former editor of ...g presents a dramatic look at ...dories and scandals ...ning many of boxing's ...ter international stars. 269 ...

...#101—$21.95

**...TAL CORNER**
...Looking. Fifteen classic boxing ...by one of the greatest boxing ...ers of all-time. Also the author ...lassic *The Sweet Science*, ...g is a genius at finding the ...angle that makes these stories ...ally appealing. Soft-covered. ...ages.
...#302—$9.95

**...NSON**
...Isella. An illustrated history ...son's life, detailing his rise to ...ot chronicling his troubles ...the ring. The book delves into ...ne and the times that shaped ...ncuses on his encounter ...mes J. Jeffries. Soft-covered. ...ages.
...#303—$9.95

**...ASON: TYSON AND ...RLD OF BOXING**
...Berger. Packed with ...ies, facts, figures, and candid ...ts, this is the most hard-hitting ...the scandal-machine known ...Tyson. Soft-covered. 453 ...

...#404—$8.95

**...ROCKY: A TRUE STORY ...KY CASTELLANI ATTILIO**
...Jorge Kinney and Adolph ...e intimate look into the life of ...Castellani Jr. who rose from ...in a small Pennsylvania town ...come one of boxing's most cele- ...ames. Soft-covered. 208 pages.
...#605—$9.95

**...E MOORE: ...E MONGOOSE**
...Marilyn G. Douroux. In this ...ntest biography of one of the ...st distinguished and ...fighters, the author gives a ...ading and complete account of ...ter life, in and out of the ring. Dozens of rare photographs. 240 pages.
BOOK #606—**$24.95**

**BEST OF THE RING: RECAPTURING 70 YEARS OF BOXING CLASSICS**
by Stanley Weston. After searching through all 833 back issues of *The Ring*, Publisher Stanley Weston selected 83 articles covering every facet of boxing. Every article and photograph is reproduced exactly as it originally appeared. Fully illustrated. 288 pages.
BOOK #707—**$32.45**

**A PICTORIAL HISTORY OF BOXING**
by Sam Andre and Nat Fleischer. More than 1,000 prints, photographs, and engravings—from James Figg, "the father of modern pugilism," all the way to Mike Tyson. 399 pages.
BOOK #808—**$19.98**

**LAZARUS AND THE HURRICANE**
by Sam Chaiton and Terry Swinton. The riveting untold story of the freeing of Rubin "Hurricane" Carter. Not released in the United States, THE RING BOOKSHOP is the only source for this inspiring account of one of boxing's great could-have-been stories. 358 pages.
BOOK #909—**$29.95**

**WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING**
by Ian Morrison. From the publishers of the *Guinness Book Of World Records* comes this excellent boxing resource. Included are a chronological listing of world title fights and an alphabetical listing of all current and ex-champs. Fully illustrated in color and black & white. Soft-covered. 191 pages.
BOOK #1010—**$9.95**

**BOXING MEMORABILIA**
by Bill Cayton and Robert Obojski. Packed full of valuable information on collecting and evaluating boxing memorabilia, including cards, posters, tickets, autographs, fight-worn equipment and much more. A must for any collector or fan. 110 photos. Soft-covered. 128 pages.
BOOK #2121—$8.95

**DOWN FOR THE COUNT: THE TRUTH BEHIND THE MIKE TYSON RAPE TRIAL**
by Mark Shaw. The definitive analysis of Tyson's trial, based on extensive research and interviews with jurors and lawyers. This book raises serious questions as to whether the guilty verdict should be set aside and Tyson granted a new trial. 24 photos. 262 pages.
BOOK #3131—**$19.95**

**MUHAMMAD ALI MEMORIES**
by Neil Leifer and Thomas Hauser. This is by far the best Ali photo book ever published. With more than 150 dramatic color photos by famed photographer Leifer, this oversized coffee table book traces the professional career of "The Greatest." Soft-covered. 176 pages.
BOOK #4141—**$29.95**

**PUNCH LINES: BERGER ON BOXING**
by Phil Berger. A knockout collection of essays by the former boxing writer for the *New York Times*. Berger takes the reader out of the gym and into the personal lives, intimate thoughts, and emotions of many of the better-known, and some of the not-so-well-known, fighters, trainers, and managers. 17 photos. 328 pages.
BOOK #5151—**$24.95**

**THE RING: BOXING THE 20th CENTURY**
by Stanley Weston and Steven Farhood. The history of boxing from 1900-1992 is expertly reported on a year-by-year and month-by-month basis that documents the thousands of events that have made boxing history. Also included are overviews of each decade and 15 biographical features of the sport's most famous warriors. Packed with facts, feats, news, and views. Includes every title fight since 1900. 352 pages.
BOOK #6161—**$29.95**

**LEGENDARY BOXERS OF THE GOLDEN AGE: THE PORTRAIT GALLERY OF PUGILISTS.**
A history of widely known boxers—and the moves and matches that made them famous. Dozens of rare photos. 11" x 14". 128 pages.
BOOK #7171 —**$16.95**

**OTHER BOOKS AVAILABLE**

| | |
|---|---|
| MUHAMMAD ALI: HIS LIFE AND TIMES | BOOK #8181—**$28.95** |
| MIKE TYSON: MONEY, MYTH AND BETRAYAL | BOOK #9191—**$24.95** |
| CORNER MEN: THE GREAT BOXING TRAINERS | BOOK #1212—**$21.95** |
| NOBLE ART | BOOK #1313 —**$ 8.95** |

**YES,** I would like to order the book(s) I have indicated below. I have enclosed a check or money order made payable to London Publishing Co. or provided my credit card information to charge my purchase.

Name _____

Address _____ Apt. # _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

❑ Check or money order
(enclosed and payable to London Publishing Co.)

❑ VISA #
❑ MasterCard # _____

Expiration Date: ____ / ____
MO / YR

Signature: _____

| QTY | BOOK # | TITLE | PRICE |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

**SEND TO:**
**London Publishing Co.**
**P.O. Box 956**
**Ft. Washington, PA 19034**

Allow 3-4 weeks for delivery. International money orders in U.S. funds only.

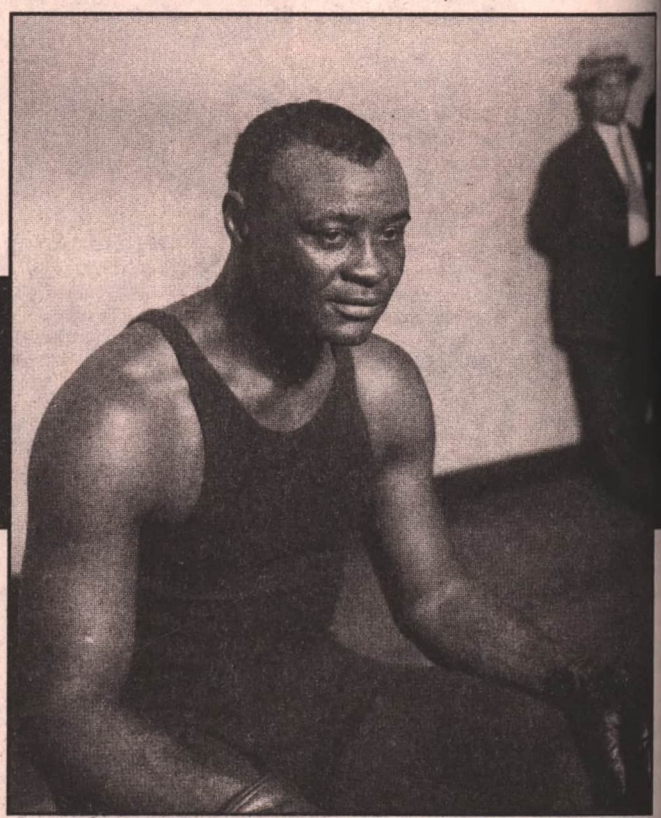
Sub-total
Postage & Handling, add $2.50 per book
For orders outside the U.S. add $5 for each book ordered
TOTAL ENCLOSED

1849/11-93

# WHAT IF...

## JACK DEMPSEY

## Versus



## HARRY WILLS

*Most of boxing's best matchups are realized. But not all of them. For a variety of reasons, including timing, injuries, and promotional concerns, the fights we most want to see—the fights that could change history—sometimes fail to materialize. When that happens, we're left with our imaginations, which makes for never-ending conjecture and delightful debate.*

*With the help of Jim Trunzo, boxing's foremost computer programmer,* THE RING *has once again decided to play matchmaker. (In 1991, Trunzo helped us with "*THE RING *All-Time Computer Tournament.")*

*The computer program runs in com... basic and consists of several thousand ... code. More than two-dozen routines and ... tines cross-check such factors as ring ... the fighters' physical condition, accum... damage, status of cuts, and special stra... any, that is used. In addition, almost 10...*

*...gsey guns for Tommy Gibbons during their ...mous heavyweight title fight in 1923. "The ...nassa Mauler" won on points. Did he have ...gh power and skills to overcome the ...remely talented Harry Wills?*

*...s are constantly monitored during a given ...*

*We've presented Trunzo with a handful of ...m matchups, fights that could have taken ...ce but never did. His program considers more ...n 100 variables, and he runs the matchups ...ugh his computer 20 times each. What if Jack ...mpsey had fought Harry Wills? What if ...berto Duran had fought Alexis Arguello? ...t if Rocky Marciano had fought Floyd ...erson? Here are some of the answers.*

## ...HE WAY IT WAS

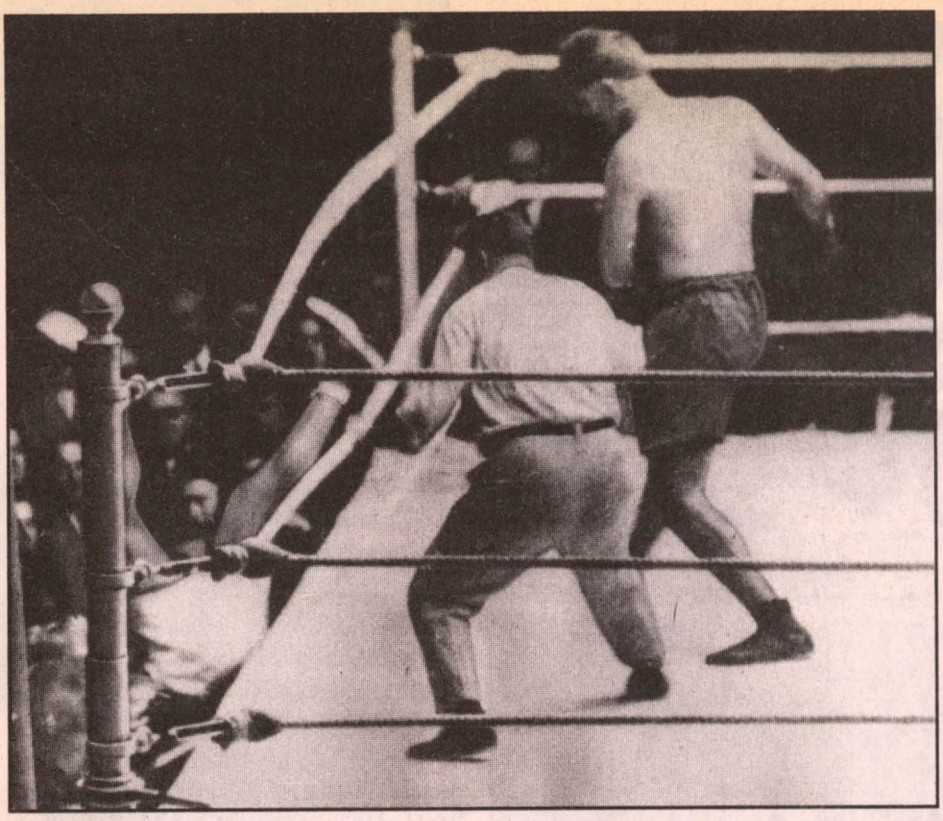
...The fight was to have taken place on July 4, ...5, in South Bend, Indiana. Wills was 36 and ...a prime that saw him claim the mythical ...go heavyweight championship; even at ages ...nd 32, he won 17 of 18 fights, with 13 kayos ...ng the victories. World heavyweight champi- ...Dempsey had only recently turned 30, but hadn't fought in almost two years. Both men owned wins over tough Argentine Luis Firpo. Wills had a reputation as a consummate boxer with better-than-average power. Dempsey was, of course, "The Manassa Mauler," with tremendous hand speed, a thundering punch, and unmatched intensity.

There were factors weighing against Dempsey. He would be giving away three inches in height and more than 40 pounds to "The Brown Panther." Moreover, for all his press, Wills was somewhat of an unknown quantity. Most of his career had been spent toiling in rings against other black fighters, and rumor had it that Wills carried his white opponents because he didn't want Dempsey to know just how good he was.

Dempsey-Wills was a fight the color-blind sporting public wanted to see. Unfortunately, it wasn't a fight to which a still-benighted society would give approval.

Why the fight fell through is a matter of conjecture. In spite of claims that Dempsey was afraid of Wills, one can be rest assured that both the champion and his manager, Jack "Doc"

*Wills poses with Argentine giant Luis Firpo before their showdown in 1924. "The Brown Panther" won easily over 12 rounds, but was booed for failing to kayo his rival.*



*Despite flying out of the ring in the first round, Dempsey dominated this 1923 title bout with Luis Firpo, winning on second-round kayo. Dempsey put his opponent down seven times.*

community shakes their collective heads and
who Dempsey has beaten that could compa
Sam Langford, Joe Jeannette, and Sam McVe

While barroom and barber shop sages a
about the encounter, Rickard is busy taking
of the final arrangements. The fight is sched
for the Polo Grounds in New York City, the
of Dempsey-Firpo. The referee will be
Reilly, and the judges George Lytton and M
Bernstein. Dempsey is guaranteed a minimum
$500,000; Wills' purse, win or lose, is a
$200,000.

Dempsey is in good humor on the aftern
of the fight. "It's going to be a hot one tod
both in and out of the ring; I like that," he say
the gathered sportswriters. "It lets me work
good sweat real quick." Asked what he think
Wills, Dempsey replies with a grin: "He must
a good fighter. I'm lettin' him fight me!"

Wills keeps a low profile the entire we
before the bout. His manager, Paddy Mull
does most of the talking. "It took me forever
get this fight, and I ain't gonna blow it now,"
says. "Jack Johnson, move over."

Wills' age continues to be a focus, a fact t

Kearns, would have been ready and willing to provide fireworks on the Fourth of July. More believable was the rumor that promoter Tex Rickard somehow killed the deal. Rickard, who had put together Jack Johnson-James Jeffries, had sworn to never again promote a mixed match. The fight seemed certain when the contracts were signed and Wills was given a $50,000 signing bonus. But it wasn't to be. Maybe Rickard remembered the race riots that had taken place across the land after Johnson had butchered Jeffries. Or maybe he was telling the truth when he explained to an irate boxing public that he couldn't find a site that wasn't a potential trouble spot. Whatever, Wills kept the bonus money, Dempsey kept the crown, and an ex-Marine named Gene Tunney eventually kept his meeting with destiny.

*Thirty years after their proposed matchup fell apart, Wills and Dempsey are pictured with
Christenberry (center), Chairman of the New York State Athletic Commission.*

## THE WAY IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN

The fight world buzzes in anticipation of the title bout between Dempsey and Wills, who for years has been the division's most worthy challenger. Dempsey enthusiasts highlight Wills' inability to stop Firpo, a fighter whom Dempsey had knocked down seven times en route to a second-round kayo victory. Wills' supporters counter with claims that their favorite had taken it easy on Firpo, easily winning almost every round, but stopping short of a knockout in order to lure Dempsey into the ring. Pundits point out that Wills, while still possessing good skills, has slowed at age 36, and his long torso will prove an easy target for Dempsey's body attack. The black annoys the challenger. "If I ain't quite as quic
I once was, you ain't gonna notice it," he say
got enough left to win, believe me."

*(Continued on page*

# EVERLAST® U.S.A. Choice of Champions®

## SATIN BOXING ROBES AND TRUNKS

### SATIN BOXING ROBES

- ★ Made of superior quality skinner's satin.
- ★ Black/White, White/Black, Red/White, Blue/White
- ★ Any other color – special order – add $5.00 SIZES: 36, 38, 40, 42, 44

**4385 Satin Robe.....$59.50**
**(Finger Tip Length)**

**Additional Charge for sizes over 44 .....$12.00**

*All robes are special order. Allow 4-6 weeks delivery.*

### SATIN BOXING TRUNKS

- ★ Skinner's Satin
- ★ Blk/Wh, Wh/Blk, Blk/Gold, Gold/blk, Blue/Wh, Wh/Blue, Blue/Gold, Red/Wh, Wh/Red, Red/Gold, Green/Wh, Wh/Green

**4412 BTS (Fashion Slit)**
**S, M, L .....$17.00**
**XL .....$19.95**

### MINIATURE BOXING GLOVES

5" Long.
**2002 MINI-BOXING GLOVES $5.10**

### SKIP ROPES

★ Leather, ball bearing ropes

**4496 (8') .....$10.20**
**4497 (9-1/2') .....$11.05**
**4499 (9-1/2') Extra Thick .....$13.60**

### PUNCH MITTS

★ Made of finest top grain cowhide

**4315 PUNCH MITTS .....$21.25 each**

## LEATHER SPEED BAGS

Astro Speed Kidskin Bag (8"x5")
**4204 .....$54.40**
Sonic Speed Bag (9"x6")
**4200 .....$56.10**
Jet Speed Bag (10"x7")
**4201 .....$59.50**
Super Speed Bag (11"x8")
**4202 .....$62.90**
Military Speed Bag (11"x8")
**4213 .....$49.30**
Genuine Leather Speed Bag (11"x8")
**4210 .....$37.40**

## STRIKING BAG BLADDERS

**4230 for 8"x5" or 9"x6" – #4200, 4202 .....$5.95**
**4232 for 10"x4" or 11"x8" – #4214, 4216, 4201, 4202, 4210, 4213 .....$5.95**
**4233 for 13"x10" or 14"x9" – #4205, 4207, 4208, 4212, 4215 .....$5.95**
**4234 for Double End Bag – #4220, 4225 .....$5.95**

### POPLIN CAP

One size fits all.
**4371 POPLIN CAP (Red/Blue) $5.00 each**

## BOXING SHOES

The shoe' "upper" is 10" high and made of a combination of the finest top-grain cowhide and superior stretch nylon mesh. Available in half sizes from 6 to 14.

## BOOKS

**Boxing Babylon - Behind The Shadowy World of The Prize Ring** - Nigel Collins .....$18.95
**Boxing Memorabilia** - *A must for collectors of boxing memorabilia* - Cayton & Obojski .. $ 8.95
**Boxing - The Art of Self-Defense Step By Step** - *Excellent manual for boxing training.* Cerrone .....$ 7.95
**The Jewish Boxers Hall of Fame** - Blady .....$14.95
**Pictoral History of Boxing** - Andre & Fleischer (SC) .$19.95
**The Sweet Science** - *Classic boxing articles from The New Yorker.* Liebling .....$ 9.95
**Cornerman** - Ron Field.....$21.95
**Boxers Workout** - P. DePasquale .....$14.95
**A Neutral Corner** - Edited by Warner & Barbour .....$10.00
**Beyond the Ring** - Jeff Sammons .....$14.95

### SWIVEL WITH 2 "S" HOOKS

**4685 $3.40**

### CHAIN & SWIVEL

Assembly with 6 "S" Hooks.
**4688 $8.50**

## BAG GLOVES

### TOP PRO BAG GLOVES

- ★ Genuine horsehide
- ★ Genuine leather binding
- ★ Padded with shock absorbing Enso Foam

**4305 (L).....$56.10/pair**
**43056 (XL) .....$59.50/pair**

### WORKOUT BAG GLOVES

- ★ Top grain cowhide
- ★ Thick full length dense padding
- ★ Padded palm grip

**4306 (L).....$27.20/pair**
**43066 (XL) .....$28.90/pair**

## HAND WRAPS

100% cotton herringbone woven.
**4450 Hand Wraps 108" ...$4.65/pair**
**4455P Hand Wraps.....$5.10/pair**
(With velcro closures 108")
**4456P Hand Wraps.....$6.45/pair**
(With velcor closures, X-long 150")
**PW PRE-WRAP .....99**
(Foam 2¾" x 30 yds.)
**AT ATHLETIC TAPE...$1.99**
(1½" x 15 yds.)

## EVERLAST T-SHIRTS

**4344 White (S, M, L, XL) ...$8.50**
**4345 Gold (S, M, L, XL)....$10.20**

## BAG ACCESSORIES

### BAG SWIVELS

**TOP PRO BALL BEARING SWIVEL**
Precision ball bearing construction insures super speed, smooth action.
**4444 .....$22.10**

**PROFESSIONAL SWIVEL**
Swivel ball is oil impregnated and precision machined.
**4440.....$15.30**

### HEAVY DUTY BEAM BRACKET

Fits all std. 2" ceiling joists. Fastens with 1-1/2" lag screws. Built-in swivel ring.
**$8.95**

### HEAVY DUTY COMPRESSION SPRING

Tested with weights over 300 pounds. For maximum effectiveness, use with our joist bracket. **$8.95** ***Guaranteed***

### MOUTH GUARDS PLASTIC

**4405 SINGLE .....$3.05**
**4410 DOUBLE .....$3.40**

## ORDER FORM

| QTY. | DESCRIPTION | SIZE | COLOR | PRICE |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Phone _____

***Personal Checks Will Delay Order 3 Weeks.***

| | |
|---|---|
| Foreign Orders, Hawaii, Alaska, Puerto Rico Include 20% of the cost | |
| Postage & Handling | 3.50 |
| SUB TOTAL | |
| N.Y. State Residents Add Sales Tax To Sub Total | |
| TOTAL | |

**G. PACILLO CO., INC.** DEPT. R. • P.O. BOX 43 BUFFALO, N.Y. 14207-0043

# Summary

### HEAVYWEIGHTS
Oliver McCall KO 1 Art Card
Lionel Butler KO 3 Bonecrusher Smith
Tony Tucker KO 2 Tim Morrison
Carlos DeLeon W 8 Brian Morgan
Michael Greer KO 4 Tim Morrison
Andrew Golota KO 1 Donnell Wingfield

### CRUISERWEIGHTS
Orlin Norris KO 3 Art Jimmerson
*(Non-Title Bout)*
Arthur Williams KO 3 Matthew Brooks
David Izegwire KO 8 Henry Milligan

### LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
James Toney KO 7 Anthony Hembrick
*(Non-Title Bout)*
Ernesto Magdaleno W 10 Mike Peak
Frank Tate KO 2 Rosendo Rosales
Randall Yonker KO 2 Jesus Valdez

### MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Julian Jackson KO 1 Jaime Montano
Thomas Tate KO 9 Rolando Torres
Vinny Pazienza KO 11 Dan Sherry
Jorge Castro KO 7 Brinatty Maquillon
Ulysses Boulware W 8 Tyrone Jackson
Dana Rosenblatt W 10 Ron Amundsen
Raul Marquez KO 1 Reggie Strickland
Lonnie Bradley KO 2 Dana Roston

### JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Javier Castillejos KO 6 Bernard Razzano
Arman Pecar KO 1 Yung Kil Chung
Buck Smith W 6 Jeff Frank
Hitoshi Kamiyama KO 3 Tatsunari Hisahiro

### WELTERWEIGHTS
Buddy McGirt W 10 James Hughes
Oba Carr KO 2 Refugio Guerrero
Brandon Croly W 10 Terrence Alli
Brandon Croly W 12 Eric Valdez
Harold Brazier KO 10 Kevin Pompey
Kelcie Banks W 10 Ray Collins
Martin Quiroz KO 1 Miguel Gonzalez
Danny Chavez D 10 Mike Powell
Ralph Jones KO 3 Terry Ford

### JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHTS
Kostya Tszyu W 10 Hector Lopez
David Kamau KO 4 Ismael Diaz
Roger Mayweather W 10 Bruno Rabanales
Livingstone Bramble W 10 Mike Johnson
Anthony Boyle KO 11 Chuck Sturm
Johnny Avila W 10 Jeff Mayweather
Vernon Forrest KO 1 Lamont Johnson

### LIGHTWEIGHTS
Leavander Johnson KO 1 Mike Moreno
Miguel Julio KO 1 Elvin Gonzalez
Stanley Longstreet Tech. Draw 3 Raul Hernandez
Cliff Samardin Tech. Dec. 4 Craig Pevy
Johnny Montantasz W 10 Clifford Hicks

### JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHTS
John-John Molina KO 6 Floyd Havard
*(Retains IBF Title)*
Regilio Tuur KO 6 Gabriel Castro
Ed Hopson W 12 Alexis Perez
Yong Soo Choi KO 3 Eun Shik Lee
Steve Cruz W 10 Roberto Chala

### FEATHERWEIGHTS
Duke McKenzie KO 4 John Davison

### JUNIOR FEATHERWEIGHTS
Tracy Patterson KO 5 Steve Young
*(Non-Title Bout)*
Jae Won Choi W 10 Antonio Cermeno
Daniel Jimenez W 12 Felix Garcia Losada
Daniel Jimenez KO 1 Juan Perez

### BANTAMWEIGHTS
Junior Jones W 12 Elvis Alvarez
*(Retains WBA Title)*
Wayne McCullough KO 7 Javier Medina
Armando Castro KO 9 Antonio Ramirez
John Michael Johnson KO 8 Arturo Estrada
Harold Mestre KO 2 Antonio Zappa
Tim Austin KO 4 Andres Gonzalez

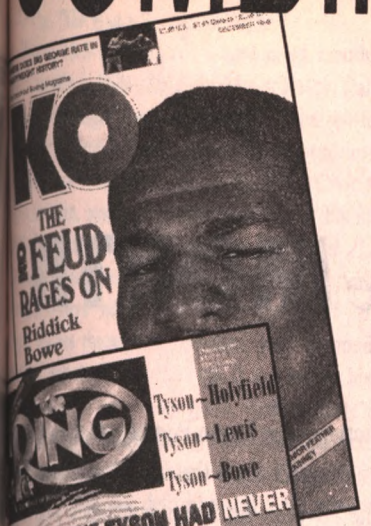
### JUNIOR BANTAMWEIGHTS
Khaoyai Mahasarakam KO 1 Rolando Valentin
Josefino Suarez W 12 Arturo Mujica
Nana Konadu KO 1 Marcos Flores
Cedric Mingo W 8 Darryl Pinckney

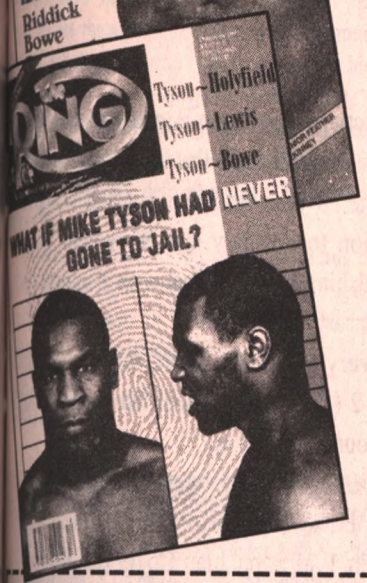
### FLYWEIGHTS
Isaias Zamudio KO 1 Miguel Pina
Danny Romero KO 9 Armando Diaz
Chatchai Elite-Gym KO 3 Benjie Duran

### JUNIOR FLYWEIGHTS
Jesus Chong KO 10 Javier Juarez
Pretty Boy Lucas W 10 Gennyu Maeshiro

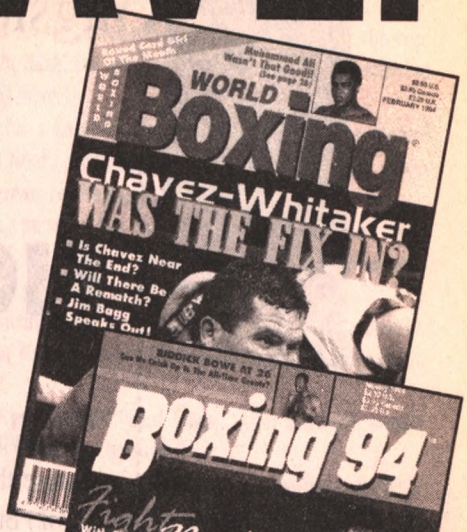
### STRAWWEIGHTS
Dominggus Siwalette KO 12 Ekawit Singchachawan
Toto Pow Pongsawang W 10 Eric Chavez
Rocky Lin KO 8 Ernesto Rubillar Jr.
Saman Sorjaturong KO 4 John Medina
Alex Sanchez KO 1 Orlando Malone
Alex Sanchez KO 1 Arturo Mayen

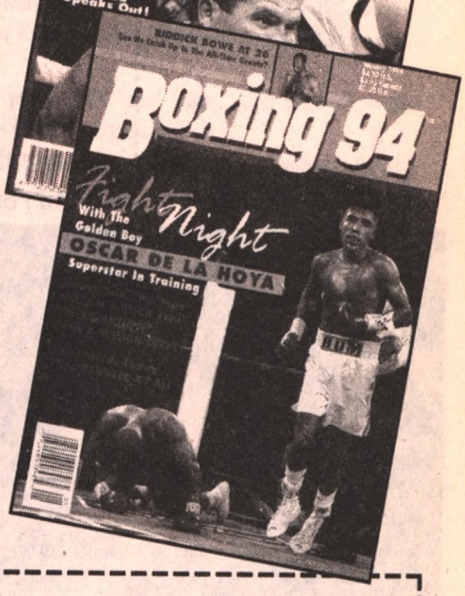
# COMBINE and SAVE!




**By taking advantage of our special combination offers, you can have all of the world's leading boxing magazines delivered to your door and save up to 33% off the regular newsstand price!**




## COMBINE and SAVE!

| Magazines | # of Issues | US/Can. Price | Foreign | # of Issues | US/Can. Price | Foreign |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **ONE-YEAR SUBSCRIPTION** | | | **TWO-YEAR SUBSCRIPTION** | | |
| **DISCOUNT COMBINATION OFFER *(SAVE UP TO 25%!)*** | | | | | | |
| ☐ New ☐ Renewal — THE RING | 12 | ☐ $48.00 | ☐ $67.20 | 24 | ☐ $90.00 | ☐ $128.40 |
| KO | 12 | | | 24 | | |
| **SUPER SAVER COMBINATION OFFER *(SAVE UP TO 33%!)*** | | | | | | |
| THE RING | 12 | | | 24 | | |
| ☐ New ☐ Renewal — KO | 12 | ☐ $67.50 | ☐ $96.30 | 24 | ☐ $120.00 | ☐ $177.60 |
| WORLD BOXING | 6 | | | 12 | | |
| BOXING 94 | 6 | | | 12 | | |

Please enter the combination subscription I have checked above. I have enclosed a check or money order for payment in full or included my credit card number to charge my purchase. (Pennsylvania residents, please add 6% sales tax).

Please indicate method of payment:

☐ Check or money order (enclosed and payable to LONDON PUBLISHING CO.)

☐ VISA # _____

☐ MasterCard # _____

Expiration Date: ____ / ____ (MO / YR)

**Send To: LONDON PUBLISHING CO.**
**P.O. Box 910**
**Ft. Washington, PA 19034**

Name _____

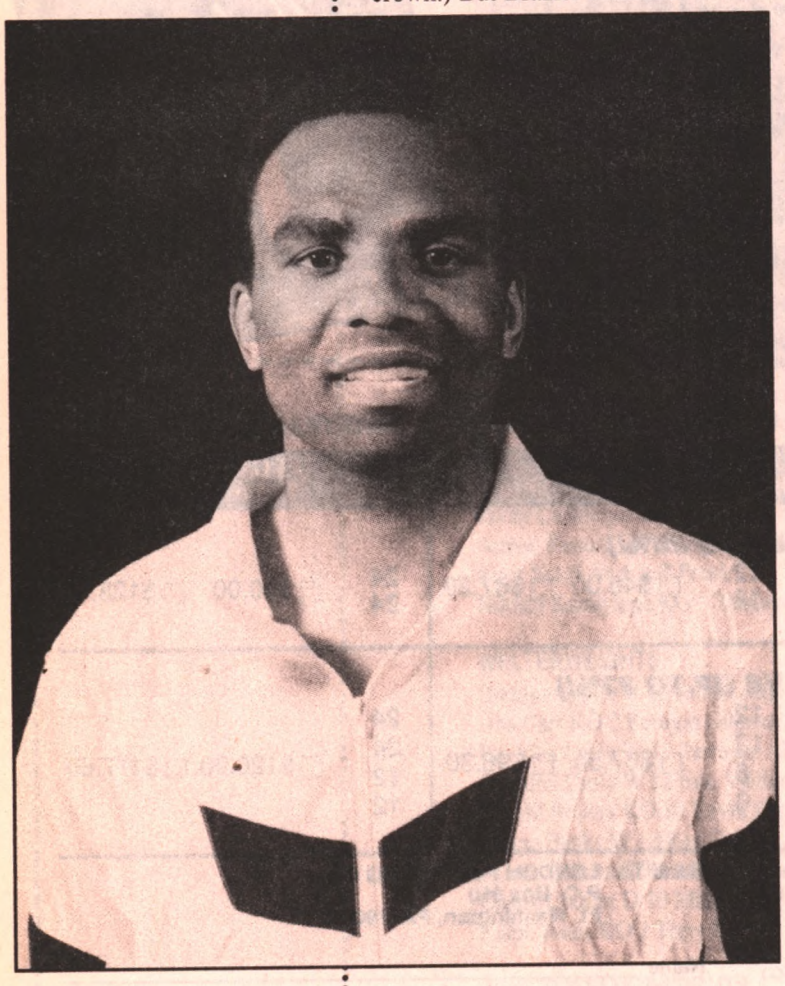
Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

For orders outside the U.S., international money order in U.S. funds only. Please allow up to eight weeks before you receive your first issue.

# FIGHTER *of the* MONTH

You won't find a report on Harold Brazier's kayo victory over Kevin Pompey on these p because the bout wasn't contested for a world title. (Brazier won the USBA welterw crown.) But Brazier continues to command respect. The 38-year-old fringe contender, who a close decision to Pompey last November, ga revenge by finishing his arch-rival with a straight in round 10. .



"It was a very shocking, short, fast punch," Pompey, 29-6-2 (12). "I didn't feel like I got hit. felt was the ground coming up."

Brazier, 90-14-1 (59), remains the ulti professional. He's lost world title fights to F Mayweather (in 1988) and Juan Coggi (in '89), b nearing a third try. He'd like the winner of the title between IBF welter champion Felix Trinida Hector Camacho.

It's awfully difficult not to root for him.

••••

Harold Brazier

## Virgil Hill W 12 Guy Waters

*Minot, North Dakota:* Scoring a record 15th defense in the light heavyweight division (over the course of two reigns), Hill dominated Los Angeles-based Australian Waters, who was conditioned but unable to deal with the WBA champion's speed and pressure.

"He was very sharp with his punches," Waters, 174½, grunted through an ice bag. "The man's timing was right."

Waters, 15-3-1 (5), hadn't fought in 14 months, but trained monk-like for 2½ months in high altitude in Mount Baldy, California. This was the 29-year-old challenger's second attempt at the world title; in 1990, he was outpointed by then-WBC champion Dennis Andries.

It was deja vu all over again at the Minot Civic Auditorium, as Hill, 175, a 20-1 favorite, easily worked everything off his jab. With both men being counterpunchers, the bout was busy but rather dry; neither could score a knockdown, and few blows were tossed with bad intentions. Hill, 38-1 (20), bloodied Waters' nose in the third, controlled the middle rounds, during which Waters threw few punches, and dropped his hands, rolled his shoulders, and shuffled in the 11th. It was among his easiest defenses.

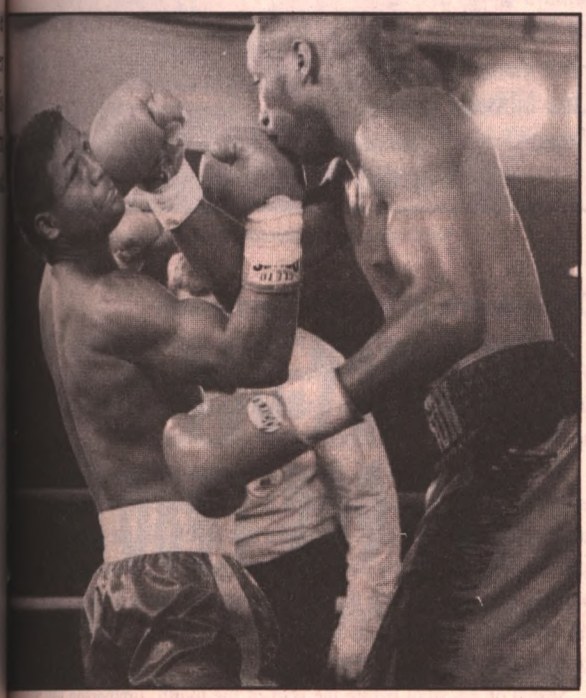
The decision was unanimous. Hubert Earle (Canada) and Gustavo Padilla (Panama) scored 120-108 and Manuela Rodriguez (Colombia) 119-107. The referee was Waldemar Schmidt (Puerto Rico).

This was Hill's fifth defense in 1993. He plans to defend as many as six times in '94.

"[Hill] will be back to the superstar status he enjoyed prior to the Thomas Hearns fight," predicted his manager, Bill Sorensen, who spotlights as the mayor of Bismarck, North Dakota. "It's funny, he's 38-1, but all anybody can think about is the one."

(12-17-93)

Doug Nassif



*Alvarez comes up short against Jones*

## Junior Jones W 12 Elvis Alvarez

*Catskill, New York:* WBA bantamweight champion Jones made his first defense, scoring a unanimous decision over former WBA flyweight titlist Alvarez at the Friar Tuck Inn.

Jones, 118, is the first 118-pound world champion from New York City in more than 50 years. The 5'8" titlist, a miniature version of Thomas Hearns, dominated Alvarez, 118, Medellin, Colombia, winning almost every round. The champion's superior boxing skills and nine-inch reach advantage enabled him to pummel southpaw Alvarez along the ropes, but the 5'4" Colombian remained a threat to counter with left hands over the top. Alvarez rarely got caught flush, but after a couple of rounds he switched to survival mode and stayed there.

Jones' best chance for a kayo came in the seventh, when he pinned Alvarez in a corner and fired 14 consecutive blows. Alvarez slipped a few and seemed content to remain on the ropes.

"Alvarez wasn't a big puncher, but he was a sneaky puncher and that's more dangerous," said Jones' trainer, Joey Fariello. "Junior could have applied more pressure, but you're not going to knock everybody out."

Oscar Perez (Dominican Republic) and Guy Jutras (Canada) scored a shutout at 120-108; Cesar Ramos (Puerto Rico) saw it 119-109. The referee was Wayne Kelly (USA).

"He was not an easy guy to fight," said Jones. "After the third round I knew it would be difficult to get the knockout."

Jones will likely defend again in a couple of months, perhaps on ABC-TV. He's hoping for a unification vs. IBF champion Orlando Canizales later this year.

(1-8-94)

Teddy Blackburn

## Henry Maske W 12 David Vedder

*Dusseldorf, Germany:* Overcoming his opponent's spoiling tactics, IBF light heavyweight champion Maske, 174¾, Germany, captured a unanimous decision over perennial contender Vedder, 172½, San Jose, California, at a sold-out Phillipshalle. It was the southpaw's second defense.

Vedder's challenge amounted to little more than grabbing, clutching, wrestling, and surviving, as he recorded the dubious accomplishment of a hat trick of unsuccessful tries at the 175-pound crowns. In 1990, he dropped a decision to WBA king Virgil Hill, and in 1992, he was outpointed by WBC titlist Jeff Harding. Vedder also lost on points to WBC cruiserweight champion Anaclet Wamba in March.

Maske was dominant without being spectacular. He ground out a steady beating with an efficient right jab that was augmented by some stiff lefts and left uppercuts. The German was unmarked at the finish.

"I felt I won every round," said Maske, 22-0 (9). "I was always in control, and he never caught me with a hard punch."

Maske's sole moment of concern came in round 10, when Vedder, 15-13-3 (3), executed a back bodydrop for which he was fortunate not to be penalized by referee Norbert Krosch (Germany). Vedder did lose a point, however, for butting in round seven.

Denny Nelson (USA) scored 120-108, Don O'Neill (USA) 120-107, and Torben Hansen (Denmark) 118-109.

Maske will next defend against mandatory challenger Ernie Magdaleno.

(12-11-93)

Brian Doogan

## Juan Coggi KO 7 Eder Gonzalez

*Tucuman, Argentina:* In one of the most controversial title fights of the year, WBA junior welterweight champion Coggi, 139¾, Sante Fe, Argentina, kept the crown for the fifth time in his second reign, stopping the number-five rated Gonzalez, 139¾, Spain via Barranquilla, Colombia,

before a crowd of 2,000 at Defensores de Villa Lujan.

The fighters threw few punches in round one. In the second, Coggi, 65-2-2 (31), a southpaw, stunned Gonzalez, 21-4-2 (15), with a straight left, then dropped him with a right hook. Upon rising, Gonzalez answered with a tremendous right cross to the champion's chin. Coggi collapsed, prompting Venezuelan referee Isidro Rodriguez to issue a count that lasted about 15 seconds. Coggi rose at nine and backed to his corner on failing legs. Gonzalez poured in punches until Rodriguez intervened; he later claimed he thought he heard a bell. After about 25 seconds of confusion, during which Gonzalez celebrated his apparent upset victory with manager Fernandez Atocha, Rodriguez waved the fighters back together. A few seconds later he halted the round *with 35 seconds remaining!*

Coggi remained weak for the next two rounds. Gonzalez, however, failed to finish him. The champion was felled again in the fifth, but Rodriguez ruled a slip. The Argentine recovered soon after, and in the seventh he knocked down a tiring Gonzalez with a left. Badly hurt, the challenger regained his feet, but when Coggi followed up with several punches, Atocha climbed through the ropes to protect his fighter.

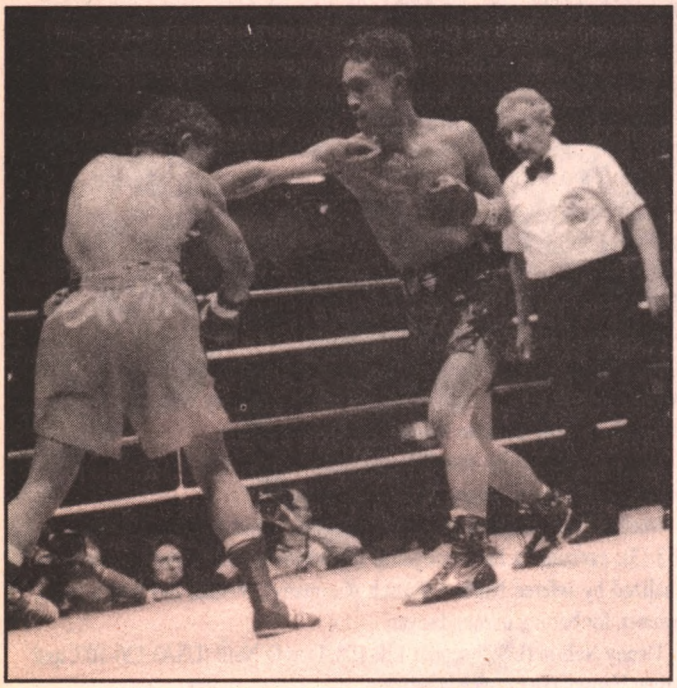
Five days after the chaotic bout, the WBA revoked Rodriguez' license for life and ordered an immediate rematch.

"My fighter should be given a victory by TKO," said Atocha.

To be credited with one victory, Gonzalez will apparently have to beat Coggi a second time.

(12-17-93)

Carlos Irusta



*Yakushiji stuns Byun*

## Yasuei Yakushiji W 12 Jung Il Byun

*Nagoya, Japan:* Stringbean Japanese Yakushiji, 117½, wrested the WBC bantamweight title from South Korea's Byun, 118, by split decision at Aichi Prefectural Gymnasium. It was Byun's second defense of the title he won in March 1993.

Barbara Perez (USA) and Alberto Barahona (Mexico) scored for Yakushiji by 115-113 and 116-115, respectively. Guillermo Ayon (Mexico) had Byun in front by 115-113. The referee was Tony Perez (USA).

Four days after the bout, the Korean Boxing Commission officials protested the decision and asked for a rematch. As we went to press, the WBC hadn't yet reviewed a tape of the fight.

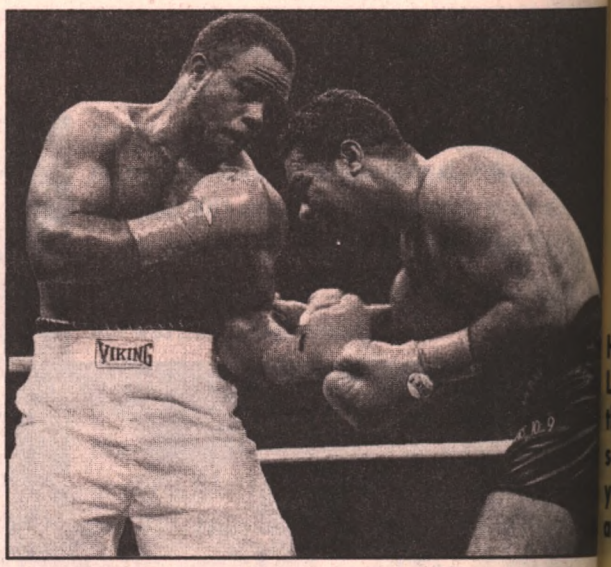
The challenger started well, staggering Byun, a southpaw, with a right in the first round. The 25-year-old Byun, infamous for staging a sit-down protest after losing a bout at the 1988 Olympics, found his range in the second, landing several right hooks. Yakushiji, 25, took the third, but Byun rebounded in the fourth, fifth, and sixth with short, accurate punches.

In the seventh, Yakushiji, 20-2-1 (14), caught Byun with a right and pinned him to the ropes with a flurry. Once more Byun, 10-1 (4), came back, capturing the eighth through 11th with sharp punches and superior defense. The judges, however, were apparently more impressed with Yakushiji's aggressiveness than Byun's accuracy.

Co-Promoters: Teiken and Matsuda Promotions

(12-23-93)

Joe Koizumi




*Norris pounds Jimmerson into submission*

## Orlin Norris KO 3 Art Jimmerson

*Del Mar, California:* Fighting for the first time since winning the vacant WBA cruiserweight title in November, Norris, 193, San Diego, stopped Jimmerson, 195, St. Louis, in a non-title bout at the Bing Crosby Pavilion at the Del Mar County Fairgrounds, outside of San Diego.

Rated 11th by the WBC, Jimmerson had won 16 straight bouts since being stopped by Andrew Maynard in 1990. Nonetheless, he was badly outclassed. Norris, 39-3 (22), sponged a few punches in the first round, then upon accelerating, quickly discouraged his opponent. Jimmerson, 30-6 (1), foolishly stood inside with the 5'10" champion. Norris scored to the head and body with combinations in the second and pounded Jimmerson with some big right hands in the third.

Seated on his stool before the start of the fourth, Jimmerson was asked whether he was okay. "I'm outta here," was his response, and referee Mark Russell waved the bout over.

Norris will make his first defense against mandatory challenger Art Williams.

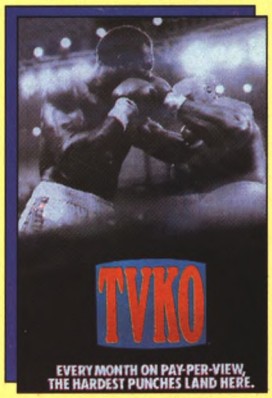
(1-9-94)

# SO YOU THINK YOU KNOW A THING OR TWO ABOUT BOXING...

**NOW AVAILABLE IN THE U.K.**

# WIN $100 CASH PRIZE

**PLUS: Each month, five runners-up will receive a giant 26"x40" TVKO fight poster.**




**HERE IS YOUR CHANCE TO PROVE IT. Take THE RING CHALLENGE and go head to head with the editors of THE RING in the trivia match of your life. If you can answer seven consecutive questions correctly, without getting knocked out, you can earn the title "Undisputed Boxing Trivia Champ" and win $100 or an oversized TVKO fight poster.**

## CALL NOW

**1-900-737-RING**

**0891 299 761**

$1.49 per minute. Kids, get your parents' permission.

**This service is available on both rotary-dialed and touch-tone phones.**

## ALL-NEW QUESTIONS

If you can answer the following questions, you could be the next $100 winner!

*– ACTUAL QUESTIONS –*

**Mike Tyson is incarcerated in which state?**
1) Indiana
2) California
3) Arizona
4) New Jersey

**How many times did Ray Leonard defeat Roberto Duran?**
1) One time
2) Two times
3) Three times
4) Ray Leonard never defeated Roberto Duran

**In which branch of the military did Joe Louis serve?**
1) Army
2) Navy
3) Marines
4) Air Force

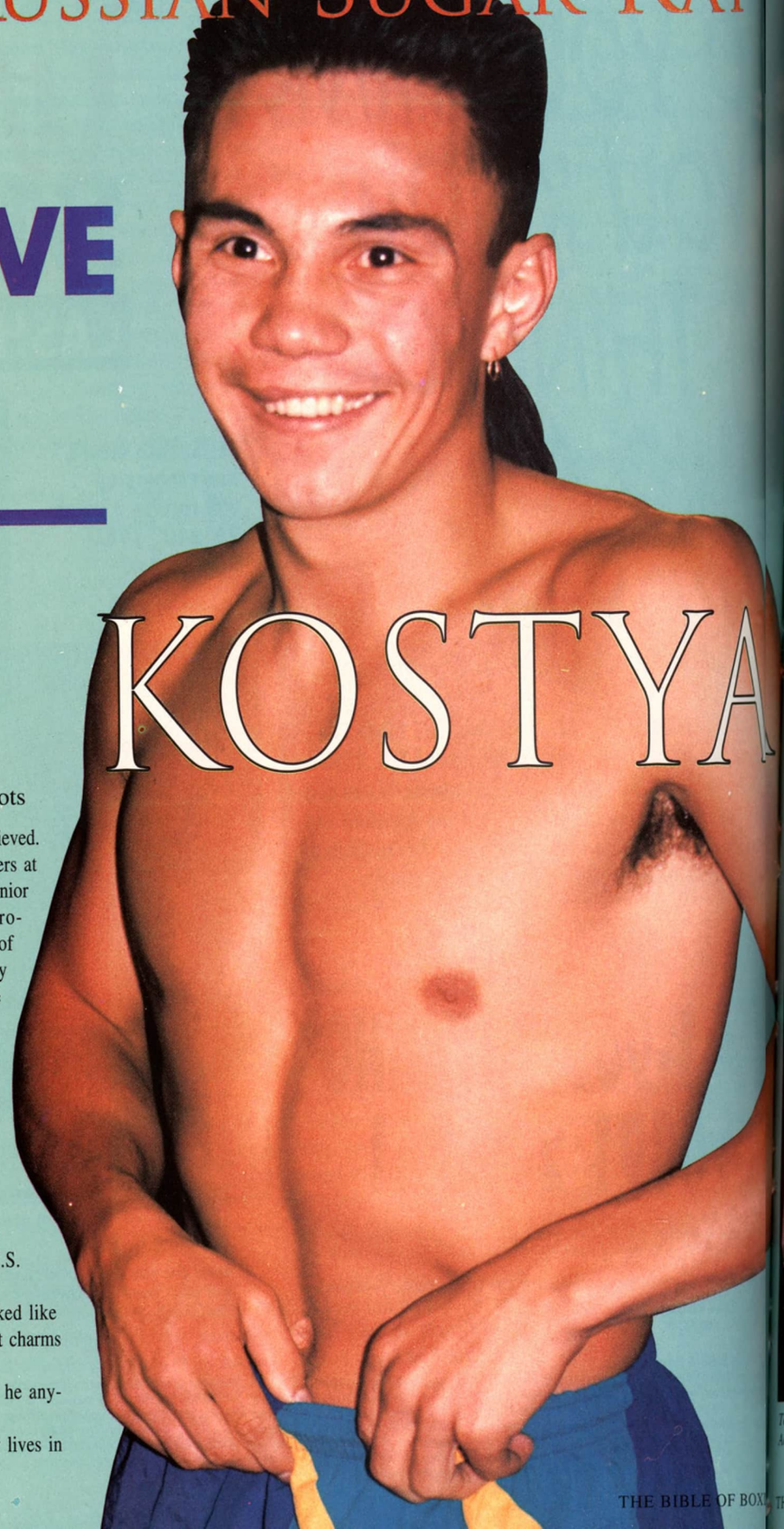
**True or False: Pernell Whitaker's hometown is Bricktown, New Jersey?**
1) True
2) False

**How did you do? If you're up for the challenge and want to put your boxing knowledge to work, call now and go for the $100!**

**Boxing Challenge Rules & Regulations**
Call as often as you like. The contest begins February 1, 1994, and continues through May 30, 1994. There is no age restriction to participate. The charge for each call is $1.49 per minute. The contest is sponsored by Advanced Telecom Services and London Publishing Co. in connection with THE RING. No Purchase necessary to participate. Void in MN, NJ, LA, GA, and where prohibited by law. All unclaimed prizes will be awarded via a second-chance drawing. The odds of winning are dependent upon the number of entries. Complete rules and mail-in entries are available by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to RING TRIVIA, P.O. Box 625, Devon, PA 19333. To win, answer seven consecutive trivia questions correctly and you automatically qualify for the weekly drawing of one $100 prize. From February 1, 1994, through May 30, 1994, a total of four (4) grand prize $100 winners and twenty (20) TVKO fight posters (retail value $10) will be awarded. TVKO posters are provided courtesy of TVKO, a subdivision of Time Warner Entertainment Company, L.P. TVKO's involvement in this promotion is limited to provision of such posters to London Publishing Co. No substitutions allowed.

"THE RUSSIAN SUGAR RAY"

# BELIEVE THE HYPE— KOSTYA TSZYU IS FOR REAL!



**By David Alfonso**
Photos by Dave Jones/Pug Shots

The Zoo Crew was happy. And relieved. In the makeshift dressing quarters at the Tampa Downtown Hyatt, junior welterweight Konstantin Tszyu (pronounced zoo) inspected the aftermath of his unanimous 10-round decision victory over rough, seasoned Hector Lopez. He peered into a mirror and gently probed the puffy, discolored areas of his boyish face.

Natasha, his bride of a few months, looked at him and shook her head. The fight had been grueling for Tszyu, but tortuous for her; she flinched and squirmed with every punch, every *hint* of a punch. Tszyu was probably hit more in this bout, his U.S. television debut, than his previous 10.

"It's been a long time since I looked like this," Tszyu, 24, said with a smile that charms the way the Sugar Rays did.

That's right, *those* Sugar Rays. Is he anything remotely close?

The Russian-born Tszyu, who now lives in Sydney, Australia, might prove to be the elusive complete package, a fighter with talent, intelligence, drive, looks, and ticket-selling charisma and flair. In short, he's fun to watch.

*In January, Tszyu won an impressive 10-round decision over top-10 junior welterweight Hector Lopez. After only 11 pro bouts, the Russian-born powerpuncher is ready for a try at the world title.*

The black-clad Tszyu didn't climb through the ropes, he bounded well over them in a fluid, cat-like move, this nice-looking Kostya kid with an athlete's build and rat-tail 'do. The cynics in the crowd—at a boxing match? No!—cheered derisively. ("Go back to Chernobyl," one fan yelled often.)

But by the end of the night they were on their feet and applauding—even the ugly American with a poor sense of geography.

"This was my hardest fight," Tszyu acknowledged. "But it was good for my future; he was a very tough, very good fighter."

It was an important, impressive victory, but not a performance without flaws.

"He's not a bad fighter at this stage, but he's got some growing up to do," said Rick Mandriss, a Lopez cornerman who works with Angelo Dundee in Miami. "In my opinion, this was way too tough a fight too early. He got hit way too much."

Lopez, 25-3-1 (12), had nearly three times the pro experience and was rated sixth by the WBC and eighth by THE RING. Last April he went the distance in losing a decision to WBC lightweight champion Miguel Angel Gonzalez.

After the Tszyu fight, the proud Lopez grudgingly but sincerely offered a simple endorsement: "He's a very tough kid."

Sean O'Grady, the former lightweight champion-turned-USA Network boxing analyst, liked the way Tszyu responded to the Lopez challenge.

"I like to see if a fighter can change the direction of a fight," O'Grady said. "Tszyu had it going early. Then Lopez started to take over. Then Tszyu sucked it up down the stretch. He still has a lot to learn. He's not the greatest thing since sliced bread yet, but he has potential."

O'Grady also saw some appealing intangibles.

"He's in the ring and doesn't say a word, yet he has an association, an affair, if you will, with the crowd. You can see they like what he's doing in there. He doesn't do it the way most every other fighter does it. I'm anxious to see how his career develops from here."

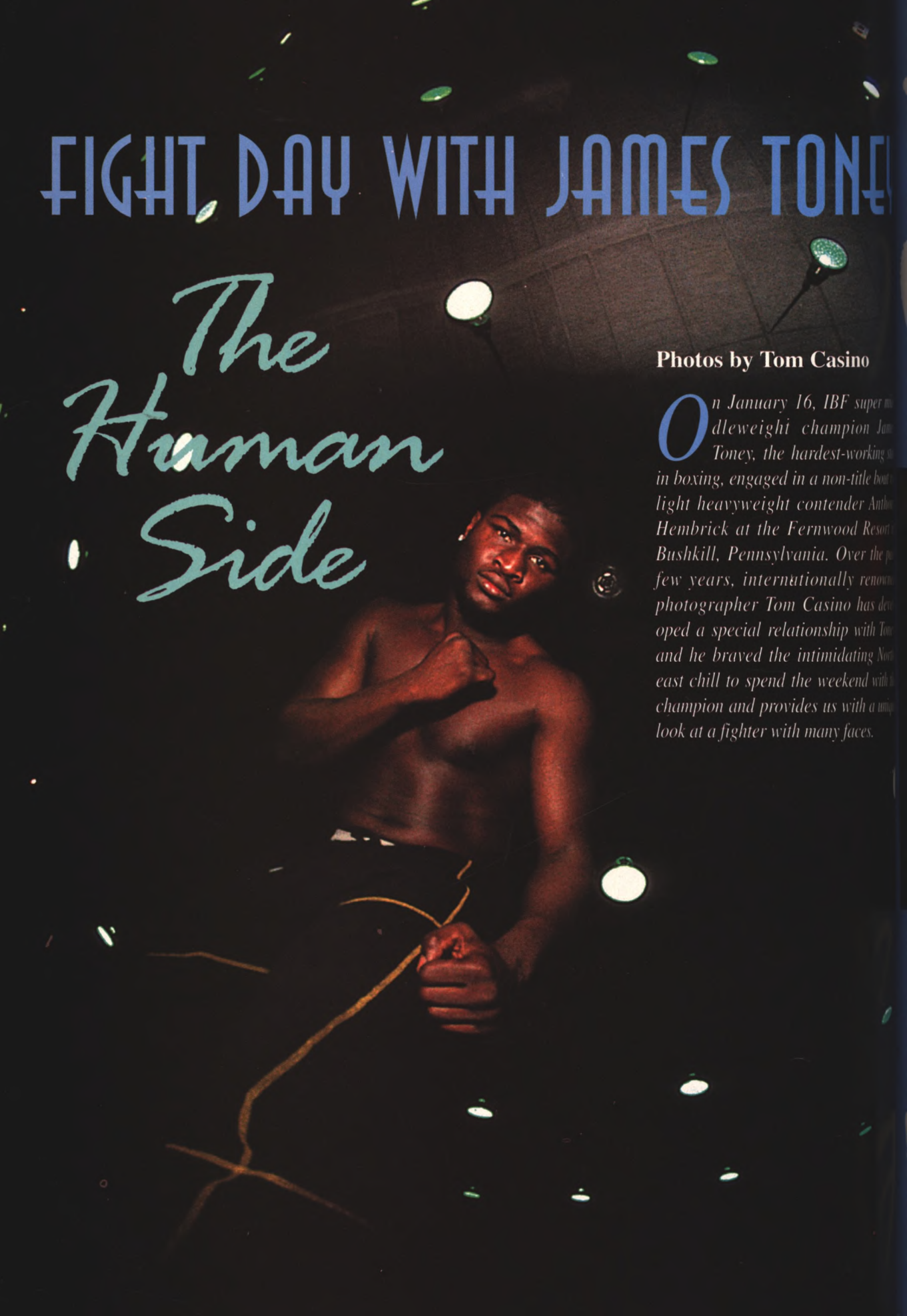
Despite relatively little pro experience, Tszyu has quickly climbed the ratings ladders. He is the IBF's top-rated contender at 140 pounds, while the WBC and THE RING rank him fourth. Besides obvious talent, Tszyu has a good

*(Continued on page 75)*

*Team Tszyu: (from left) Promoter Bill Mordey, Tszyu, trainer Johnny Lewis, and American agent Mike Acri. Tszyu was a big hit in his U.S. TV debut. "He needs the exposure in America," Mordey said.*

# FIGHT DAY WITH JAMES TONE

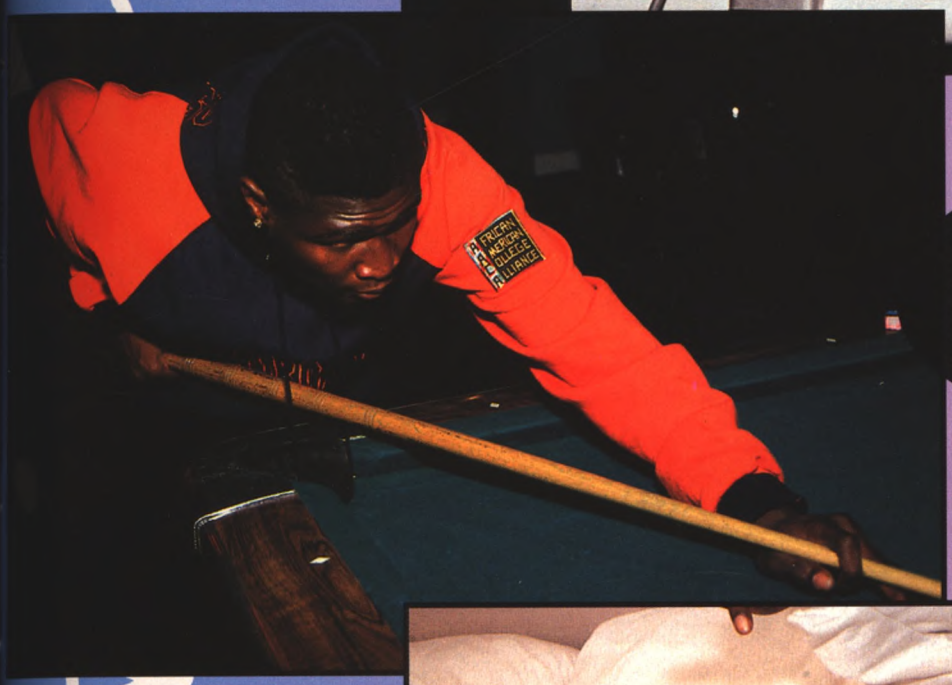
## The Human Side



**Photos by Tom Casino**

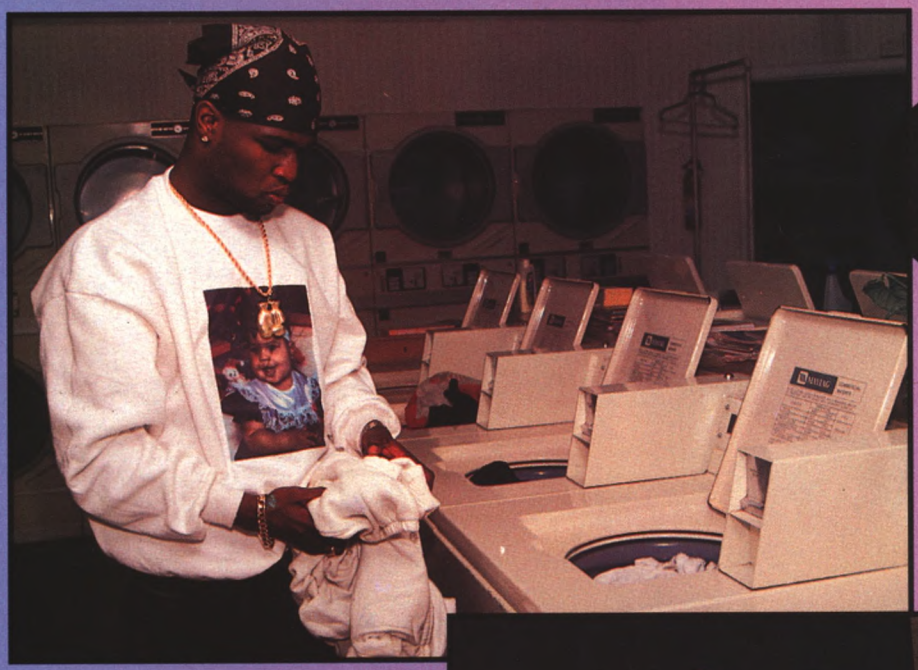
*On January 16, IBF super mi dleweight champion Jam Toney, the hardest-working s in boxing, engaged in a non-title bout light heavyweight contender Anth Hembrick at the Fernwood Resor Bushkill, Pennsylvania. Over the p few years, internationally renown photographer Tom Casino has dev oped a special relationship with To and he braved the intimidating Nor east chill to spend the weekend with champion and provides us with a uni look at a fighter with many faces.*

*Toney scaled a career-high 176—and still had to work the Stairmaster to reduce. Insiders are anticipating a showdown with IBF middleweight champion Roy Jones, but Toney may jump to light heavy before Jones moves to super middle.*



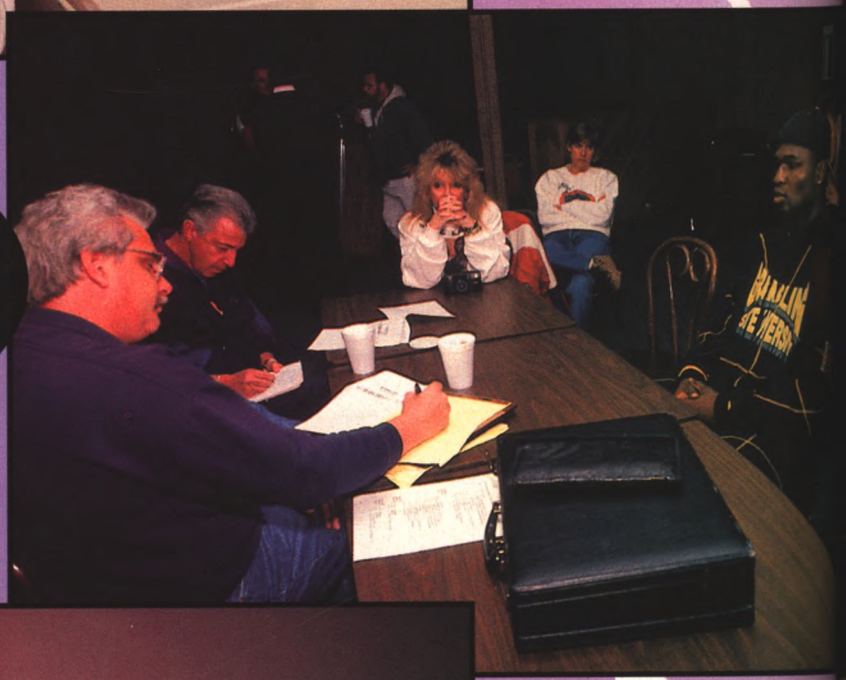

*After working to make weight, Toney makes time to relax. Not surprisingly, he's extremely competitive, whether boxing, shooting pool, or playing gin rummy.*

*Toney is indeed an angry young man, but there's another side to him, as illustrated by the time he spends with Pee Wee, the four-legged friend of manager Jackie Kallen.*

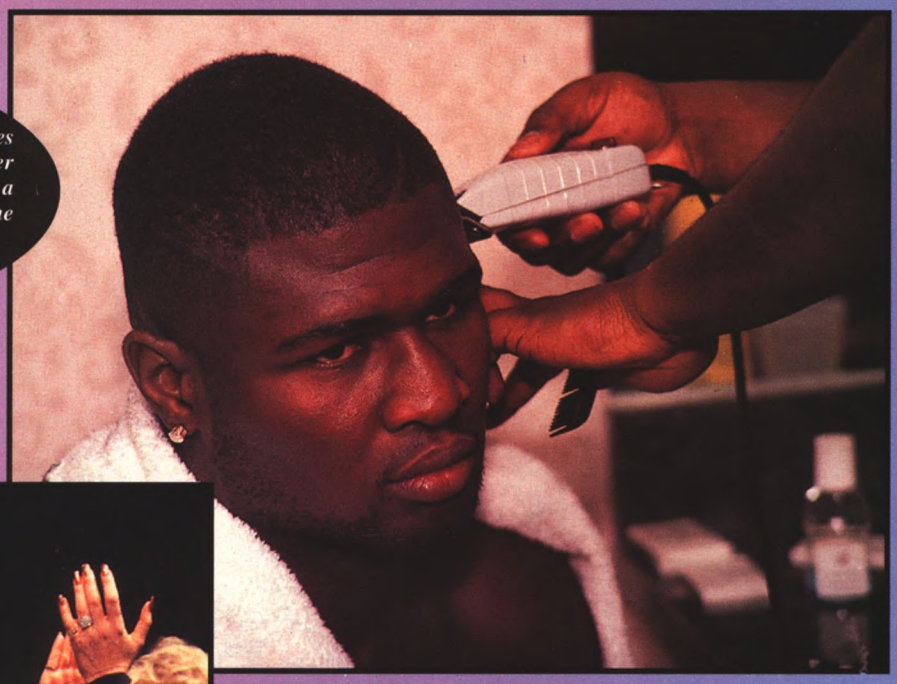


*Toney may be the best super middleweight in the world, but he still does his own laundry. Isn't that what an entourage is for?*

*Toney-Hembrick was televised by ESPN, which means a prefight interview with announcers Al Bernstein and Barry Tompkins. Ever-conscious of image, manager Kallen sits in and gives an ear to every question and answer.*



*Toney is almost unbeatable in "Boxing Legends Of The Ring," a video game sponsored by this magazine. His frustrated victim is super middleweight and sparring partner John Scully.*



*Can't look sloppy on TV. It takes a brave man (sparring partner Akbar Muhammad) to take a razor to Toney's head. What if he doesn't like the results?*

*The waiting is over. It's fight time, and the faces of Toney and trainer Bill Miller turn stone-cold and serious.*

*Hembrick occasionally connects, but it doesn't take long for Toney, 41-0-2 (27), to establish his superior skills. He outjabbed the 1988 Olympian, pounded his body on the inside, and countered whenever Hembrick attacked.*

*Hembrick was floored in the third and again in the sixth. Early in the seventh, he was absorbing a beating when his corner tossed a towel into the ring as a sign of surrender.*

*Referee Joe O'Neill acknowledges the winner (left), and Team Toney begins a celebration that's punctuated by a kiss from Kallen (below). The Lady and The Champ are soon to be the subjects of a full-length movie. The kind with a happy ending.*

# THE GREATEST FIGHTERS OF ALL-TIME

By **Steve Farhood**

Records are indeed made to be broken, but sometimes it hurts. Think about it:

❒ In December, Virgil Hill made his 15th defense of the WBA light heavyweight title (over the course of two reigns), breaking the division record held by Bob Foster. (See story on page 22.)

❒ IBF bantamweight champion Orlando Canizales is on the verge of breaking Manuel Ortiz' division record of 15 consecutive successful defenses.

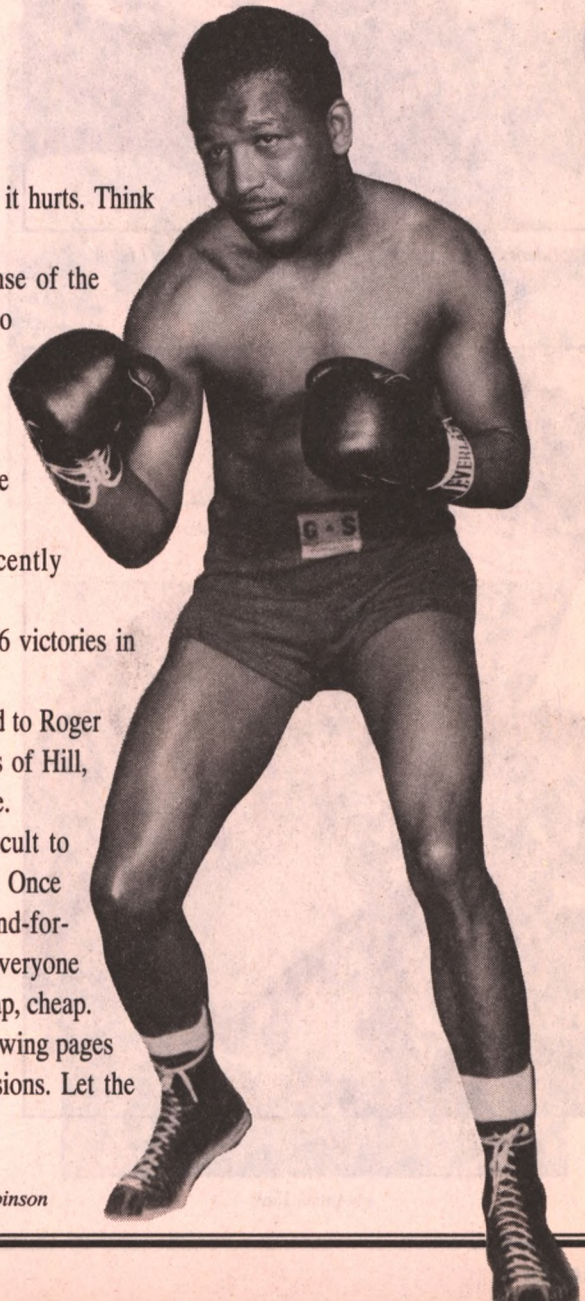
❒ IBF junior middleweight champion Gianfranco Rosi recently became the longest-reigning 154-pound titlist in division history.

❒ Julio Cesar Chavez' stoppage of Andy Holligan gave him 26 victories in world title fights, tying the record held by Joe Louis.

Times have changed, of course, and if there's an asterisk attached to Roger Maris' single-season record of 61 home runs, the accomplishments of Hill, Canizales, Rosi, and Chavez must be viewed in historical perspective.

With 17 divisions and three champions per division, it's difficult to determine who's good, who's great, and especially who's the best. Once upon a time, there were only eight world champions, and a pound-for-pound top 10 had to include at least two contenders. Today, almost everyone is a champion, a former champion, or a champion-to-be. Cheap, cheap, cheap.

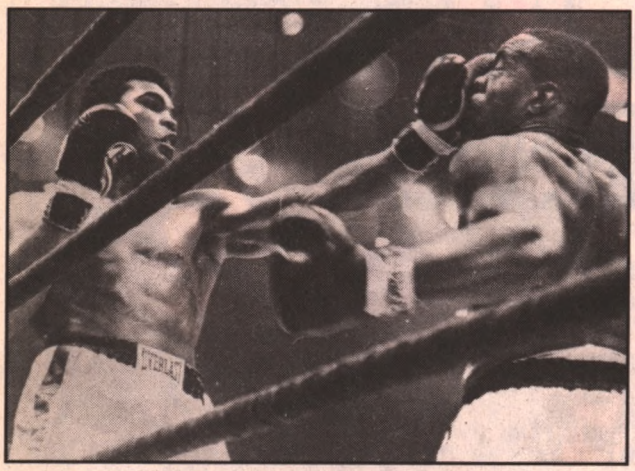
It seems a good time, then, to reward true greatness. On the following pages THE RING ranks the five best fighters in the history of all 17 divisions. Let the debate begin.



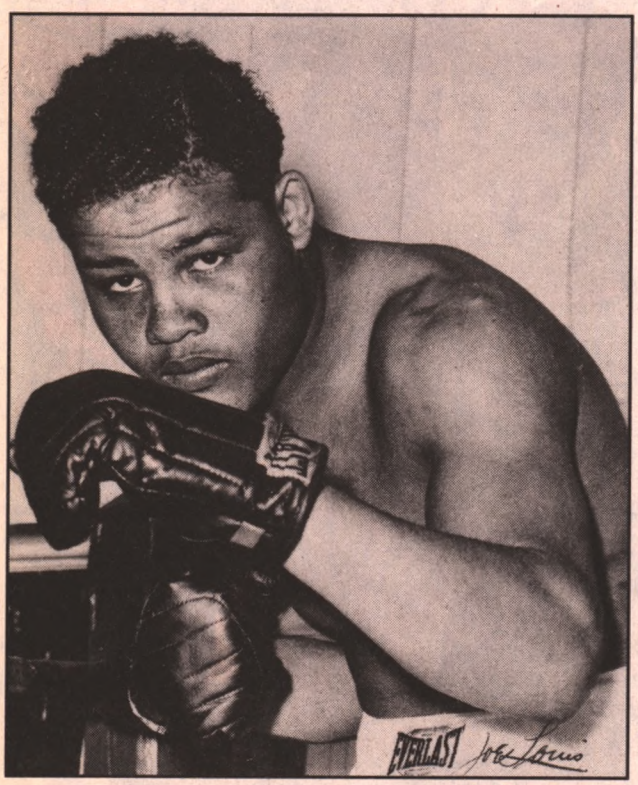
*The greatest of them all: Sugar Ray Robinson*

# HEAVYWEIGHTS

## 1. Muhammad Ali 2. Joe Louis 3. Jack Johnson 4. Rocky Marciano 5. Jack Dempsey



*Muhammad Ali (then Cassius Clay) spears Sonny Liston*




*Joe Louis*

1 **Muhammad Ali:** Like Louis, meets any and every criterion [for] greatness, including longevity, accomplishment, and record ... [T]iebreaker: quality of opposition ... Amazingly, there are historians who continue to refuse to give "The Greatest" his due ... Displayed unique skills in the '60s and unmatched heart and courage in the '70s. Was fortunate to compete during the early- and mid-'70s, when the division was at its all-time strongest, featuring Joe Frazier, George Foreman, Earnie Shavers, Ken Norton, Jerry Quarry, Ron Lyle, and Jimmy Young ... Wasn't technically superior, but cannot be matched in terms of mobility, hand speed, jab, and chin ... Division's only three-time champion ... Cost George Foreman a spot on this list, and maybe Frazier and Sonny Liston, too.

2 **Joe Louis:** Regardless of weight class, will anyone ever again make 25 successful defenses? ... Or reign for more than 11 years ... Shot for shot, may or may not have been the division's biggest hitter, but was surely its most *effective* puncher ... Two-fisted power enabled him to regularly do something Ali was generally incapable of: score a dramatic kayo ... Didn't adjust particularly well during fights, but most impressive aspect of career was ability to dominate opponents who troubled him the first time around; in rematches, crushed Max Schmeling, Arturo Godoy, Buddy Baer, Billy Conn, and Jersey Joe Walcott ... Edged by Ali on this list, but the gap between numbers two and three is greater than between one and two.

## A NOTCH BELOW

**Larry Holmes** made 20 successful defenses and was as dominant during his seven-year reign as any heavyweight champion. He fought with skills and heart, and if he's underrated it's because he suffered from an image problem that he helped create ... **Jim Jeffries** was one of the most talented of champions, but at the turn of the century he was near-unbeatable ... **Mike Tyson** lost to Buster Douglas *(ugh)* and never fought Evander Holyfield. However, on the night he kayoed Michael Spinks in one round, he would have been competitive with any big man in history.

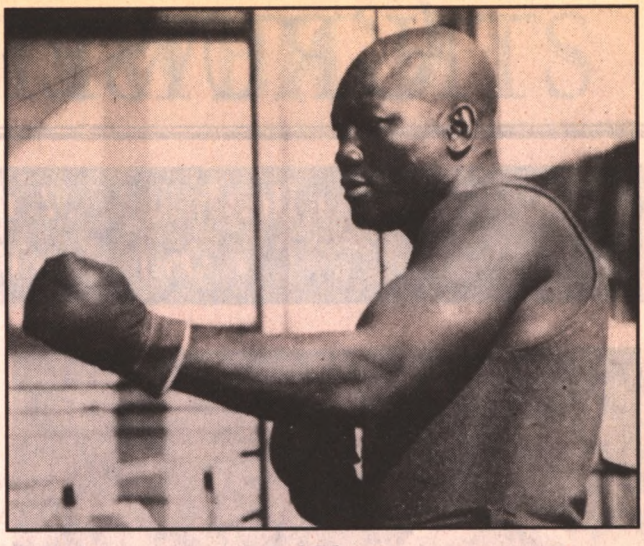
**Jack Johnson:** If Ali was a symbol of his time, Johnson was far ahead of his ... Skills and accomplishments have always been overshadowed by out-of-the-ring activities and social significance ... Opportunities were limited because he was 32 when he won title; Louis was 23 and Ali 22 ... Most noted defenses came against a middleweight, Stanley Ketchel, and a badly faded and comebacking former champion, Jim Jeffries ... Faced most of his toughest foes before he was crowned, including Sam McVey, Marvin Hart, and Joe Jeannette ... Was strong and quick, especially for his size, but greatest asset was defense; retained his incredible reflexes into his 40s ... Whether he took a dive in his title fight loss to Jess Willard will forever remain a point of debate.

**Rocky Marciano:** Difficult to rate; he was the only unbeaten champion in history, which instantly separates him from the rest of the best, but his level of competition and length of reign (only three years) are negatives ... Dethroned a 38-year-old Jersey Joe Walcott and defended against Ezzard Charles, 33, and light heavyweight champion Archie Moore, 41 ... Possessed minimal natural talent and serves as indisputable proof that great heavyweights can be manufactured ... Work ethic was unmatched and heart was among the biggest ... Lacked the one-punch crunch of Louis, but accumulation of blows was as damaging as any heavyweight in history ... The bottom line: Would he have beaten Charles and Joe Louis had those opponents been a few years younger?

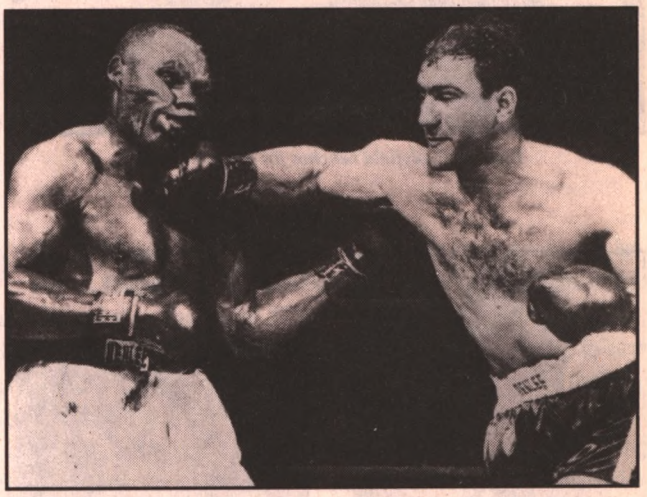
**Jack Dempsey:** Has a romanticized view of "The Manassa Mauler" contributed to his high standing? ... There's no denying Dempsey powered his way to the title and terrorized the entire division, but he was somewhat protected by manager Doc Kearns and promoter Tex Rickard, and he never defended against top-rated contender Harry Wills ... Reigned for more than seven years but made only five successful defenses ... If he's to be criticized for facing smaller foes like Tommy Gibbons and Georges Carpentier, he must be applauded for squaring off against giants like Fred Fulton, Jess Willard, and Luis Firpo ... Those who dismiss Dempsey as a crude brawler should remember that he never failed to hurt an opponent he hit, and he hit everyone, including his conqueror, Gene Tunney.

## UNDERRATED & OVERRATED

**Underrated: Harry Wills** possessed size and considerable boxing skill. He fought in an era during which black fighters were often denied deserved opportunities. He was rated first through much of Jack Dempsey's reign, but recalling the tumultuous reign of Jack Johnson, promoter Tex Rickard chose to draw the color line ... **Overrated:** The mystique of **Sonny Liston** grows with the years. Granted, his prime came before he won the title, but his reign was particularly undistinguished.



*Jack Johnson*

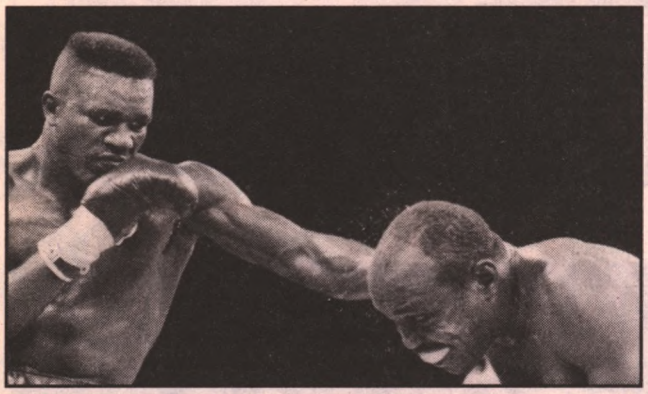


*Rocky Marciano pounds Jersey Joe Walcott*

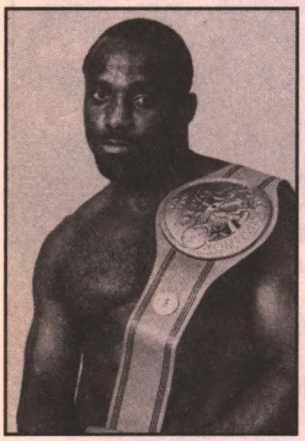
*Jack Dempsey*

# CRUISERWEIGHTS

## 1. Evander Holyfield 2. Dwight Qawi 3. Carlos DeLeon 4. Ossie Ocasio 5. Orlin Norris



*Evander Holyfield reaches for Dwight Qawi*



*Dwight Qawi*

*Carlos DeLeon*

**1 Evander Holyfield:** Far and away the best of a humble bu... The only cruiser to unify the title ... In fact, the only cruis... really matters ... A no-brainer pick, in large part because he ... two victories over Qawi, who is rated second ... Relied on superior speed, underrated boxing skills, and the same heart that has enable... to succeed at heavyweight.

**2 Dwight Qawi:** Far better as a light heavyweight, of cour... 5'6¾", his reach failed to exceed his grasp ... Used a relen... style and an exceptional defense to win his second title ... Ent... Holyfield in their first bout, the best 190-pound fight of all-time ... does it say about the division that a fighter who made one succes... defense ranks second?

**3 Carlos DeLeon:** Won and lost the WBC title four times each ... cruiser version of countryman Wilfred Benitez, the Puerto ... was a marvelous counterpuncher ... Only problem was his ... which failed him at inopportune times ... (Getting kayoed in two m... by S T Gordon is no way to ensure a lasting greatness) ... Reigned ... and-off for 10 years, which should be worth something.

**4 Ossie Ocasio:** "Jaws" sandwiched five years as a cruiser (... 1987) between two undistinguished runs at heavyweight ... cagey boxer in his prime, but more of a survivor than anything ... Most notable win at this weight was a questionable decision over ... Like DeLeon, suffered a stoppage loss to Holyfield ... Scored only kayo in six 190-pound title fights.

**5 Orlin Norris:** Recently won his first title and probably d... belong here yet, but it won't take much for him to advance ... third spot ... Enjoyed success at heavyweight before dro... down ... Somewhat similar to Qawi in that he's a short (5'11") boxer ... a tight defense ... Figures to benefit if promoter Bob Arum fo... through on his plan to unify the title.

## A NOTCH BELOW

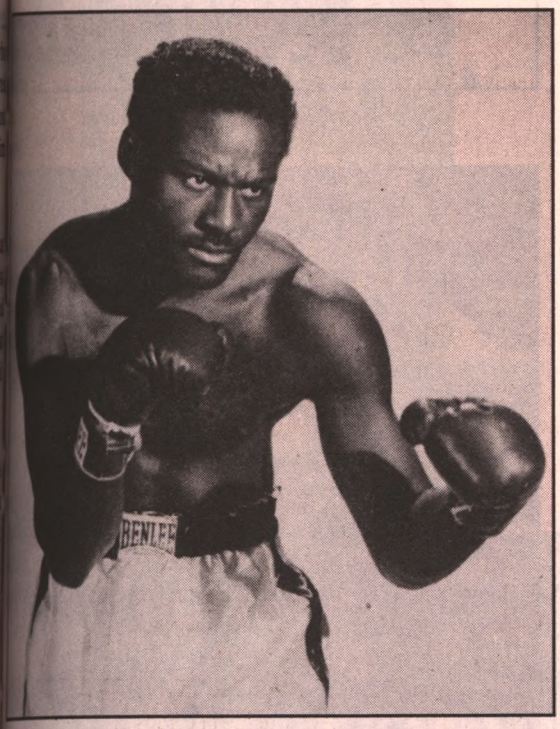
**Lee Roy Murphy** lacked a spark, but at least he featured a big punch, which even the best cruisers seem to lack ... **Marvin Camel** was the division's first champion and a two-time titlist. He was tall and strong, but lacked power and was usually dreadful to watch ... **Al Cole** has potential. A win over Norris would help.

## UNDERRATED & OVERRATE...

**Underrated:** Hard to nominate an entry at 190 pounds, ... France's **Taoufik Belbouli** was a decent fighter whose title run ... spoiled by injuries and inactivity ... **Overrated:** In the early-... **Leon Spinks** was supposed to be the division's savior (or so ... geniuses like editors at boxing magazines). Sadly, he couldn't ... save himself.

# LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS

## 1. Ezzard Charles 2. Archie Moore 3. Bob Foster 4. Gene Tunney 5. Tommy Loughran



*Ezzard Charles*

**1 Ezzard Charles:** Is best known as a heavyweight, but also excelled at middleweight and especially light heavyweight ... Beat the best 175-pounders of his era, including Joey Maxim (three times), Lloyd Marshall, and Jimmy Bivins ... Ranks first, however, because he went 3-0, including one stoppage, over a prime Moore ... Gave away three of his best years to military service during World War II ... Went an amazing 30-1 against mostly world-class opposition from 1946 through June 1949, when he won the vacant heavyweight crown ... Was a master boxer, but lost much of his instinct for finishing after tragic bout vs. Sam Baroudi in 1948 (Baroudi died of head injuries suffered in the fight) ... Added only five to 10 pounds upon jumping to heavyweight.

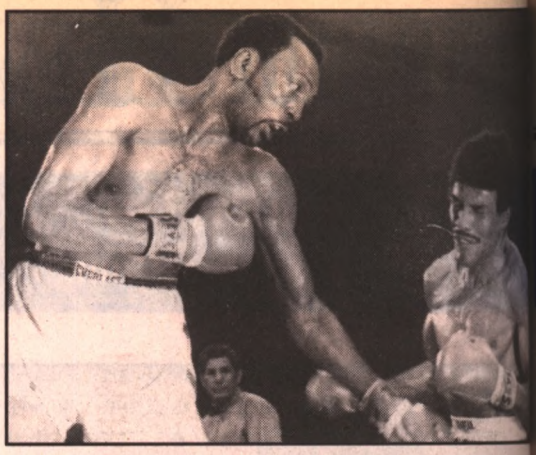
**2 Archie Moore:** Perhaps the most remarkable champion in ring history ... Engaged in 215 recorded bouts, scoring an all-time record 129 kayos ... Fought for 27 years, most of them as a 175-pounder ... Hard to believe, but turned pro in 1936 and lasted long enough to have faced Muhammad Ali (then Cassius Clay) ... Denied a title try until age 39, but kept the crown until he was 48 (the longest reign in division history) ... Among his victims: Lloyd Marshall, Holman Williams, Curtis Sheppard, Jimmy Bivins, Bob Satterfield, Harold Johnson, Joey Maxim, Bobo Olson, and Yvon Durelle ... The ultimate thinking fighter: Used a cross-armed defense and a calculating offense, and employed unique training methods ... Twice failed in attempts to win heavyweight title.

*Archie Moore scores against Joey Maxim*

### A NOTCH BELOW

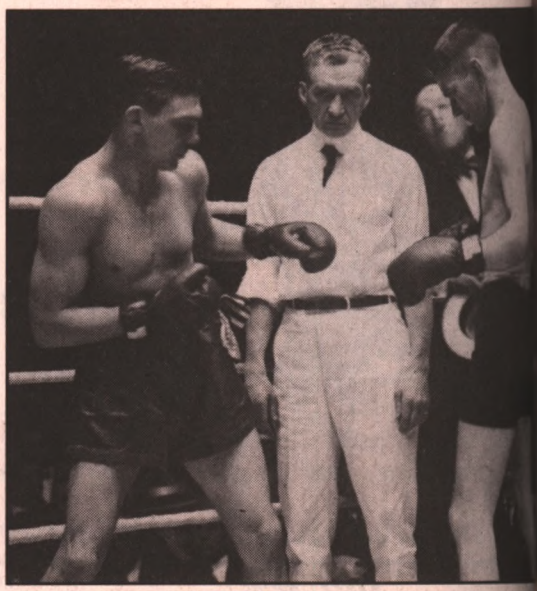
**Billy Conn** did a lot more than almost beat Joe Louis. His standing is hurt, however, by a limited career at 175 pounds. Both Harry Markson and Teddy Brenner call him the best light heavy they ever saw ... **Michael Spinks** must be credited for unifying the title against a tough foe in Dwight Qawi. Moreover, he was unbeaten (27-0) at the weight and kept the crown for four years ... **Battling Levinsky** engaged in 287 career bouts, with most coming during the no-decision era. Held world title four years before making a defense. One of division's first great boxers.

3 **Bob Foster:** Suffered from disease that ails most light heavyweight champions: Wanted to be heavyweight king, and as a result is remembered more for failures against Ernie Terrell, Zora Folley, Joe Frazier, and Muhammad Ali than incredible success at 175 pounds ... Is generally not regarded as highly as Charles or Moore, but hit as hard as any fighter in the division's history ... Won title by flattening Dick Tiger, and proceeded to stop 10 of 14 challengers ... Stood 6'3", and could dominate with jab or surprisingly compact powerpunches ... Most notable victims were Henry Hank, Eddie Cotton, Tiger, Roger Rouse, Vicente Rondon (against whom he unified the title), Mike Quarry, and Pierre Fourie ... Vacated the throne after going 11 years without a loss at the weight.



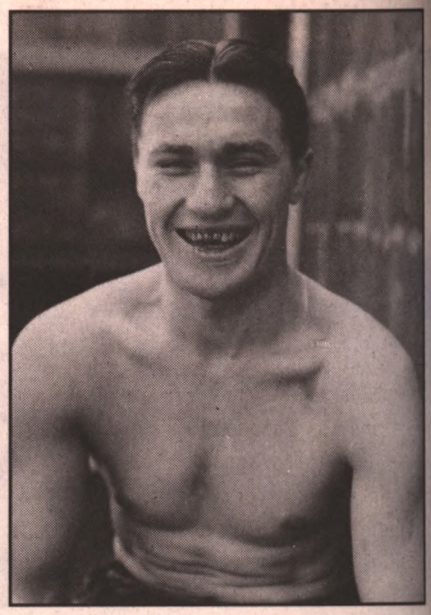
*Bob Foster punishes Ray Anderson*

4 **Gene Tunney:** Like Charles, is best-known for work at heavyweight, which included two title fight victories over Jack Dempsey ... Most of post-World War I career, however, was spent at 175 pounds ... In 1922, outpointed former world champion Battling Levinsky for then-prestigious American title ... Scored wins in three of four bouts vs. middleweight legend Harry Greb ... Among the first truly masterful scientific boxers, but proved toughness in 1922 loss to Greb by lasting 15 rounds with a broken nose and a cut over his right eye that cost him two quarts of blood, and then, two days later, posting bond for a rematch ... Loss to Greb was the only defeat of 83-bout career ... Excelled during the first golden age of the division, topping, among others, Tommy Loughran, Georges Carpentier, and Tommy Gibbons.



*Gene Tunney (right) squares off with Harry Greb*

5 **Tommy Loughran:** How can a fighter who scored 17 kayos in 173 career bouts be rated in the top five of *any* division? ... A fair question, but the Philadelphian belongs, largely because of his considerable skills, but also due to his record in the talent-laden late-'20s ... Often ugly to watch; faced with an aggressive foe, he'd clinch and remain in a defensive mode from bell to bell ... Nonetheless, he edges more celebrated champions Billy Conn and Michael Spinks for fifth spot because of level of competition ... Reigned only two years, but topped four world champions during that time, including Mike McTigue, Pete Latzo, Mickey Walker, and future heavyweight king Jimmy Braddock ... Was never stopped by a light heavyweight ... Vacated the throne to compete at heavyweight.



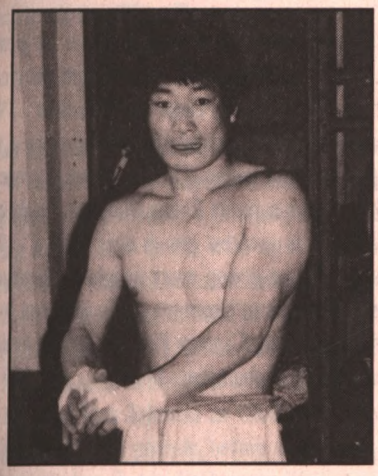
*Tommy Loughran*

## UNDERRATED & OVERRATED

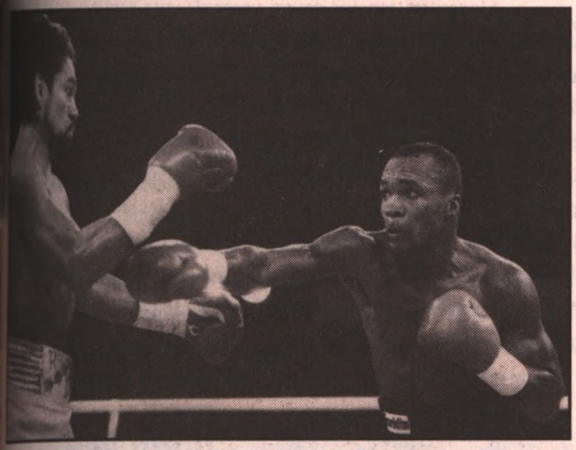
**Underrated: John Henry Lewis** turned pro at age 14 and was finished by 25, after suffering a first-round kayo defeat to heavyweight champion Joe Louis. For three years, however, he was an outstanding champion, and he defeated Rosenbloom, Jim Braddock, Bob Olin, and Len Harvey ... **Overrated:** A classic overachiever, **Victor Galindez** was as tough as anyone, but he never unified the title, and on several occasions seemed protected by WBA referees and judges.

# SUPER MIDDLEWEIGHTS

## 1. Chong Pal Park 2. Sugar Ray Leonard 3. Thomas Hearns 4. James Toney 5. Michael Nunn



*Chong Pal Park*



*Sugar Ray Leonard outpoints Roberto Duran*

**1** **Chong Pal Park:** The best in a division that's only 10 years old ... Crude kayo artist won IBF title, then WBA crown ... Held title for four years and made eight successful defenses ... Defeated, among others, Murray Sutherland, Vinny Curto, and Lindell Holmes ... Doesn't compare, of course, to the four fighters rated below, but proved himself at this weight.

**2** **Sugar Ray Leonard:** We're really talking only three fights here, wins over Don Lalonde and Roberto Duran and a draw vs. Hearns ... Past his prime at 168 pounds, but managed to brutally kayo Lalonde, who was a light heavyweight, and hurt Hearns on several occasions ... Whatever success he enjoyed at this unnatural weight can be explained in five words: He was a great fighter.

**3** **Thomas Hearns:** As with Leonard, analysis must focus on only three bouts, points wins over James Kinchen and Michael Olajide and the draw with Sugar Ray ... Deserves credit for gutty effort vs. Leonard; before the bout, almost no one expected him to be competitive ... Makes the top five only because the division is still in its infancy ... And because he's Thomas Hearns.

**4** **James Toney:** If he doesn't jump to light heavyweight, he'll leapfrog to the top spot in a year or two ... Was brilliant in dethroning Iran Barkley ... Has made only one defense of the IBF title, a points win over Tony Thornton ... Will earn even more respect if he successfully defends against Prince Charles Williams, Chris Eubank, or WBC champion Nigel Benn.

**5** **Michael Nunn:** Still can't pop a balloon with his punches, but has so much natural talent, and physically, at least, seems better suited for 168 pounds than Leonard or Hearns were ... Established himself as a legitimate titlist by convincingly defeating Victor Cordoba in their rematch ... Would up standing considerably by gaining revenge vs. Toney for kayo loss suffered at middleweight.

## A NOTCH BELOW

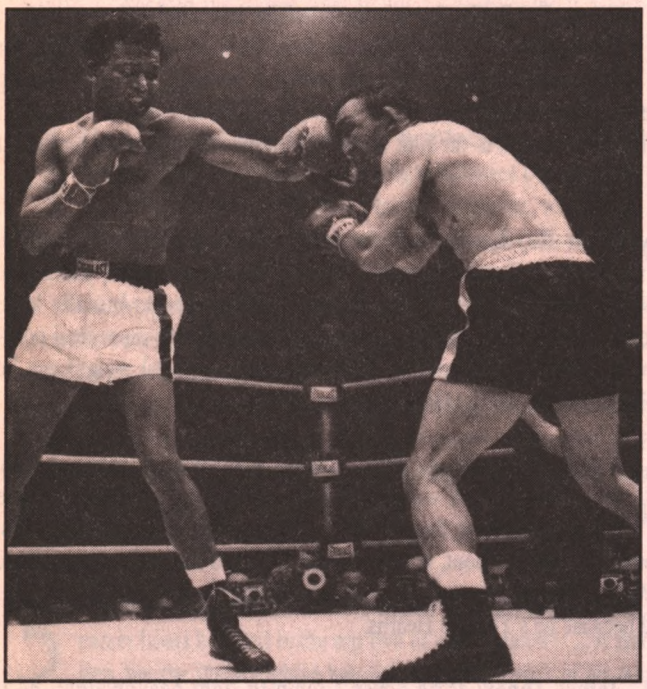
**Chris Eubank** deserves mention solely because of off-the-floor kayo of Michael Watson. A hot-and-cold fighter, reigning WBO champion was disappointing in recent rematch draw vs. Nigel Benn. Needs to top Nunn or Toney for long-lasting respect ... **Lindell Holmes** won world title (IBF) in third try and made three successful defenses before showing age vs. Darrin Van Horn. Defended a relatively high-quality of opposition, including Murray Sutherland, Frank Tate, and Antoine Byrd.

## UNDERRATED & OVERRATED

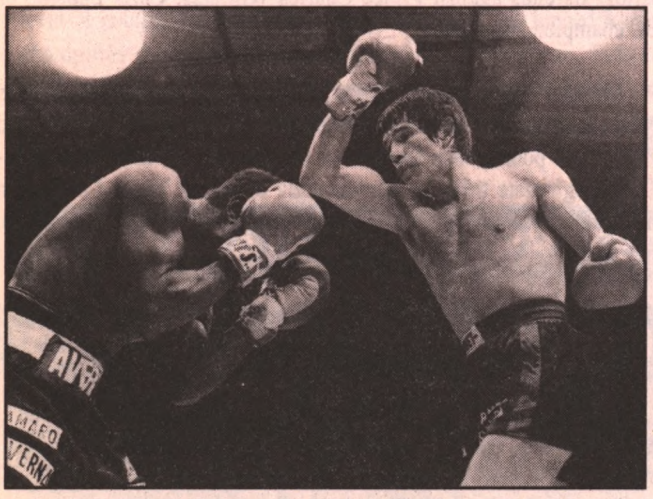
**Underrated:** Legal problems and inactivity have slowed the progress of Germany's talented **Graciano Rocchigiani**, who remains active. Made three defenses of IBF title before vacating ... **Overrated:** South Korea's **In Chul Baek** kayoed countryman and arch-rival Park, but it's impossible to overlook knockout losses to Julian Jackson (at 154 pounds) and Chris Tiozzo.

# MIDDLEWEIGHTS

## 1. Sugar Ray Robinson 2. Carlos Monzon 3. Harry Greb 4. Stanley Ketchel 5. Marvin Hagler



*Sugar Ray Robinson pummels Carmen Basilio*



*Carlos Monzon decisions Emile Griffith*

1 **Sugar Ray Robinson:** Consensus choice as the greatest fig... all-time ... Utterly dominant at welterweight, but greatest ... and most compelling bouts came at 160 pounds ... Won the ... record five times and reigned on and off for nine years ... Could ... dance or trade punches and take out his opponent with one blow ... hook kayo of Gene Fullmer rivals Rocky Marciano's right cross ... of Jersey Joe Walcott as greatest punch ever thrown ... Defeated ... LaMotta five times despite giving away weight ... Regained title ... first time after a 2½-year retirement ... In addition to Fullmer, ... LaMotta, beat Randy Turpin, Carmen Basilio, Rocky Graziano, and ... Olson, world middleweight champions all.

2 **Carlos Monzon:** Unlike Robinson, enjoyed an uninterrupted ... Stayed on top for seven years despite a playboy lifestyle ... Vacated the throne after making 14 defenses ... Went unbeaten ... last 13 years (and 81 bouts) of career, an accomplishment that by ... places him comfortably with the greatest fighters in history ... Level ... competition doesn't quite match Robinson's, but he dethroned a ... standing champion in Nino Benvenuti and defended against, among ... ers, two-division titlist Emile Griffith, welterweight great Jose Nap... Bennie Briscoe, and Rodrigo Valdes, who, had he not lost two ... Monzon, might have established himself as an all-time great ... Tall ... somewhat awkward, but jabbed with power and followed with a cr... ing right ... Greatest asset, however, was intense pride.

## A NOTCH BELOW

**Mickey Walker** is a legitimate hall-of-famer, but was probably ... better as a welterweight ... **Tony Zale** is best remembered for his ... bout series with Rocky Graziano, but was a far better fighter before ... serving in World War II. If the division has a poster boy, "The Man ... Of Steel" is our pick ... Who knows how much **Jake LaMotta** ... would have accomplished had he chose to avoid Robinson. Before ... securing his long-overdue title shot, he faced many of the world's ... class black fighters who other contenders made sure to avoid. ... **Marcel Cerdan** was a charismatic puncher who may have posted ... before winning world title from Zale. Was still active when killed ... plane crash at age 33.

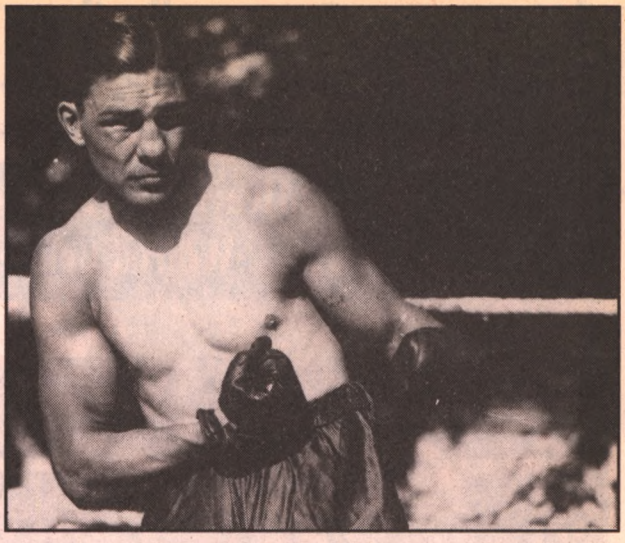
3 **Harry Greb:** Performed during the no-decision era, so it's difficult to draw comparisons to Robinson and Monzon ... Fought an incredible 299 times, and after his death at age 32, the result of complications during surgery on his nose, it was revealed he had been blind in his right eye for his last 90 bouts ... Nicknamed "The Human Windmill," and overwhelmed opponents with non-stop attack ... Was strong enough to defeat a host of top light heavyweights, including Gene Tunney, Tommy Loughran, and Maxie Rosenbloom ... Held 160-pound crown for 2½ years, and only defense of note was decision over all-time great Mickey Walker ... Death came only two months after unsuccessful attempt to regain title from Tiger Flowers.

4 **Stanley Ketchel:** The first prodigious kayo artist in a division that came to be known for its punchers, and one of the first superstars of the sport ... Experienced a Dempsey-like road to fame and fortune, evolving from a hobo in the wild west to a world champion ... Scored 40 kayos in 41 victories before winning the vacant title in 1908 ... Defeated arch-rival Billy Papke in three of four showdowns ... Also held wins over Philadelphia Jack O'Brien, Jack "Twin" Sullivan, and Joe Thomas ... Fight that secured his place in history, however, was challenge of heavyweight king Jack Johnson in 1909 ... Dropped the champion, who outweighed him by 35 pounds, before succumbing in 12th round ... Was still champion when shot to death at age 24.

5 **Marvin Hagler:** If Robinson, Monzon, Greb, and Ketchel are easy picks, Hagler edges a host of equally deserving 160-pounders for fifth place ... (Arguments can be made for Mickey Walker, Tony Zale, Jake LaMotta, and others) ... Sneaks in based on level of competition, both before and after he was crowned, length of reign (seven years), and fact that in '80s, he was one of game's few undisputed champions ... Only negative: Biggest fights came against challengers who were rising in weight (Thomas Hearns, Roberto Duran, Sugar Ray Leonard) ... Southpaw boxer-puncher relied on conditioning, intensity, and fantastic chin ... Briefly held mythical title as best pound-for-pound fighter.

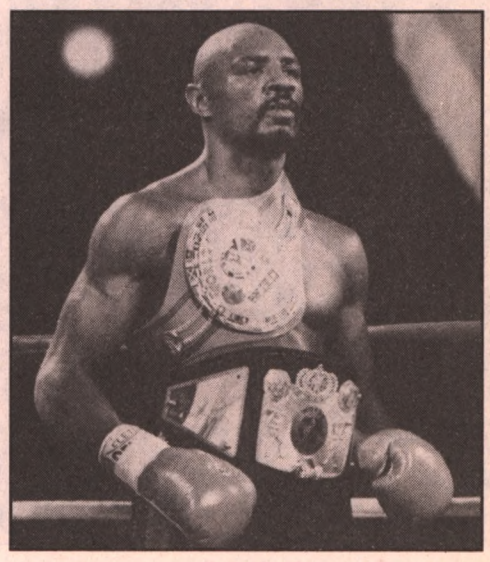
## UNDERRATED & OVERRATED

**Underrated:** During the division's darkest days (after Ketchel and before Greb), teen sensation **Les Darcy** was the most deserving title claimant. Unfortunately, he was never given the opportunity to flaunt his skills outside of his native Australia; he died at age 21 shortly after arriving in the USA ... **Overrated: Rocky Graziano** was protected and connected. He had tons of heart and power, but fought far too many welterweights to rate with the best of 160-pound champions.



*Harry Greb*

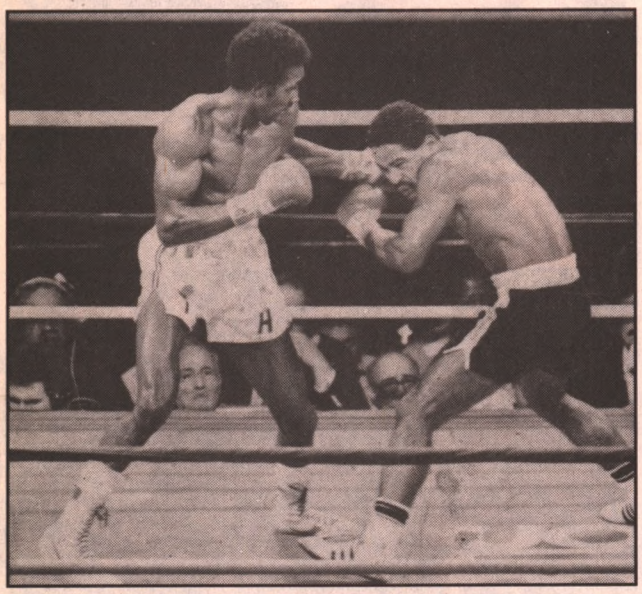
*Stanley Ketchel*



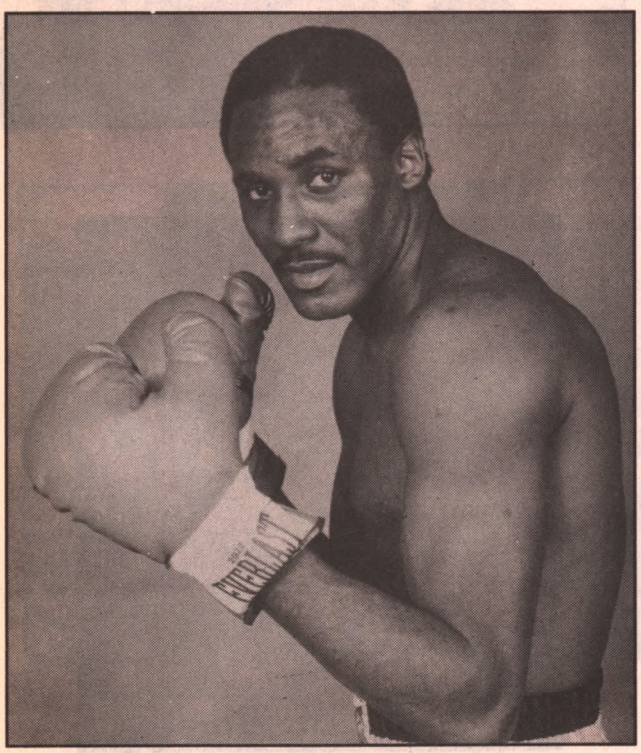
*Marvin Hagler*

# JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHTS

**1. Thomas Hearns 2. Mike McCallum 3. Koichi Wajima**
**4. Wilfred Benitez 5. Julian Jackson**



*Thomas Hearns dethrones Wilfred Benitez*



*Mike McCallum*

**1 Thomas Hearns:** "The Hit Man" was never as dangerous as he campaigned at welterweight, but in the 32-year history of division, he deserves top ranking ... Kept crown for almost years, which, by junior middle standards, is forever ... Won belt by nessing master boxer Benitez, and attempted to unify two-thirds of title by taking on WBA champion Roberto Duran, but Panamanian stripped just before the bout ... One-punch kayo of Duran was am most brutal of decade ... Memorable but unsuccessful challenge of m dleweight king Marvin Hagler came during reign ... Utilized fami tools—long jab, exceptional hand speed, crushing straight right—enabled him to win titles in four divisions ... Never lost at this weight.

**2 Mike McCallum:** A marvelous fighter, but remains low profile this day ... Biggest problem was that he never secured opportu to face better-known champions Hearns, Duran, Sugar R Leonard, and Hagler ... Would he have beaten any of them? ... Ma maybe not, but had he been able to claim one as a victim, he would ha have achieved a lasting greatness ... Kept WBA title for three years, a like Hearns, never lost at 154 pounds ... Defeated an impressive list foes, including Ayub Kalule, former pound-for-pound entries Don Curry and Milton McCrory, and, in a wild shootout, future two-divisi champion Julian Jackson ... Highly skilled, featuring solid tools, str defense, an exceptional body attack, and one of the best chins of his era.

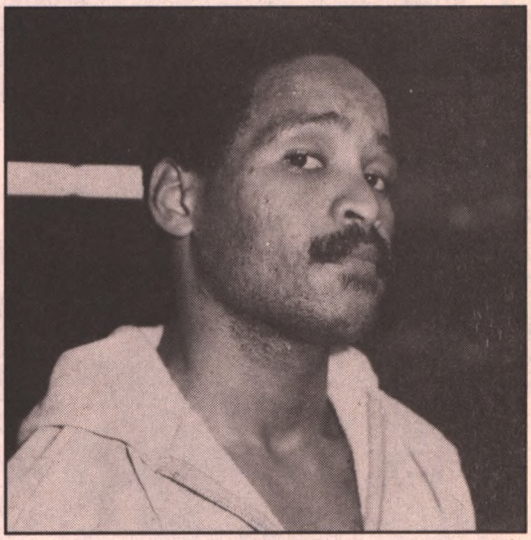
## A NOTCH BELOW

**Ayub Kalule** was an awkward southpaw who lacked only a kay punch. He made four defenses of the WBA title and remained unbeaten until losing title in game effort vs. a prime Sugar Ra Leonard ... **Terry Norris** failed against Jackson, but gained status as one of game's best fighters during reign that lasted almost four years. Possesses marvelous blend of speed and power, but chin has failed him. Big-name victims include Sugar Ray Leonard, John Mugabi, Donald Curry, and Meldrick Taylor ... **Sandro Mazzinghi** reigned twice but rarely ventured outside of Italy. He did, however, defeat Ralph Dupas and Ki Soo Kim.

3 **Koichi Wajima:** "The Flame" reigned in the early- and mid-'70s, when the division had a distinctly un-American flavor ... Won title on three occasions, and was twice a unified king ... First championship run featured six successful defenses and lasted a respectable 2½ years ... Didn't start to box until age 25 ... Developed a crouching pressure style that confused most foes ... Defeated four world champions: Carmelo Bossi, Miguel de Oliveira, Oscar Albarado, and Jae Do Yuh ... Quality of opposition doesn't compare to that of Hearns or even McCallum; there were no Benitezes or Durans campaigning at 154 pounds in the '70s ... Kayo losses in title fights to Albarado, Yuh, Jose Duran, and Eddie Gazo severely hurt standing.

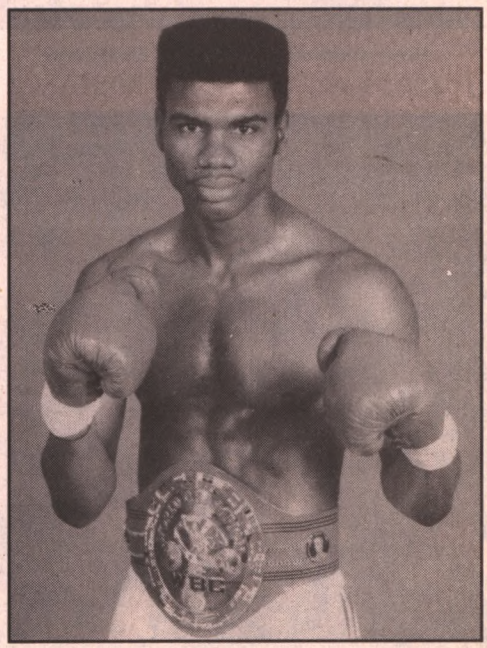
*Koichi Wajima hammers Jae Do Yuh*

4 **Wilfred Benitez:** Was better at welter, and still better at junior welter, but nonetheless cracks top five because of scarcity of exceptional talent ... Had only four title fights in this class, taking Maurice Hope's WBC crown by uncharacteristic one-punch kayo, successfully defending against Carlos Santos and Duran, and then dropping title to Hearns ... Seemed well-suited for the weight; remember, he was 17 and still growing when he won the junior welter title ... Flaunted his unmatched defense against Hope and especially Duran, who was clearly outfought ... Didn't seem bloated and uninterested until he jumped to middleweight ... A future hall of famer who relied almost totally on instinct and natural skills ... Could have been even better than he was.



*Wilfred Benitez*

5 **Julian Jackson:** Deserves fifth spot ahead of Terry Norris ... Made only three successful defenses of WBA title (Norris kept WBC crown 10 times), but kayoed "Terrible Terry" in head-to-head matchup and, unlike Norris, exited division a champ ... Other defense of note was brutal knockout of somewhat faded former champ Buster Drayton ... Started weakly at championship level, suffering second-round kayo loss to McCallum in 1986 ... Rebounded one year later to win vacant title with kayo of Korea's undeserving In Chul Baek (Granted, Norris winning crown from John Mugabi was far more impressive) ... Power alone catapults him toward top of division's ratings ... Went on to win WBC middleweight title, carrying tremendous punch with him.



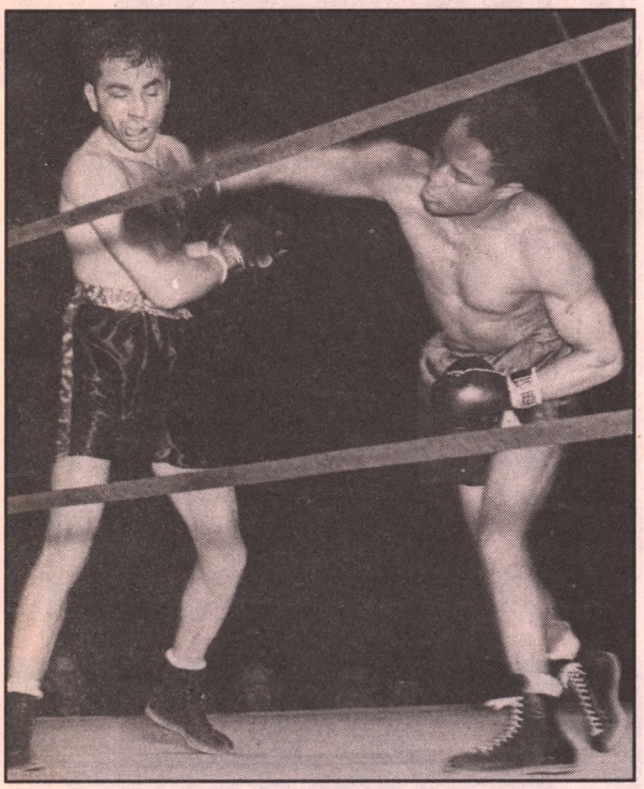
*Julian Jackson*

## UNDERRATED & OVERRATED

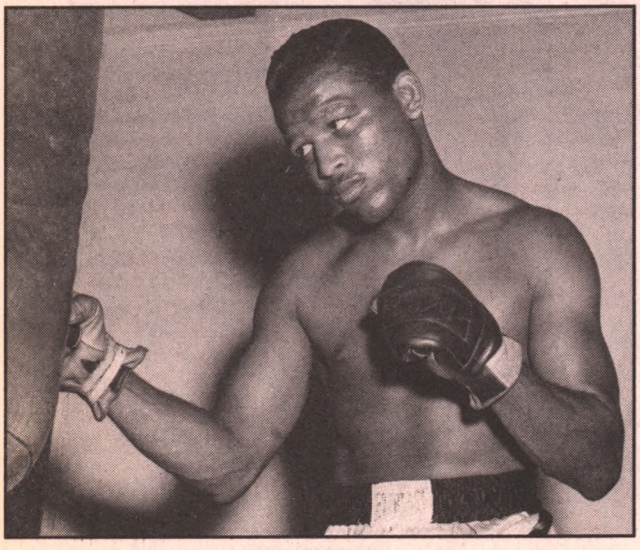
**Underrated: Maurice Hope** was a British-based southpaw from Antigua who twice topped a respectable champion in Rocky Mattioli. A studied boxer, he made the mistake of risking the title against Benitez. **Overrated: Gianfranco Rosi** has kept the IBF title since 1989. The crude Italian has defended against a string of unimpressive and undeserving challengers and on occasion has benefited from generous judging. A hint of his true worth: In 1988, he faced a faded Curry and suffered a loss by kayo.

# WELTERWEIGHTS

**1. Henry Armstrong 2. Sugar Ray Robinson 3. Sugar Ray Leonard**
**4. Barney Ross 5. Jimmy McLarnin**



*Henry Armstrong scores against Barney Ross*



*Sugar Ray Robinson*

**1 Henry Armstrong:** If Robinson isn't the greatest fighter of time, Armstrong probably deserves the honor ... Lost to Sugar in 1943, when he was well past his prime ... Simultaneously featherweight, lightweight, and welterweight crowns, but 147-pound was only one he defended with regularity ... Stood only 5'5½" weighed at or under *lightweight* limit for eight of 22 welter title fight The ultimate pressure fighter; never stopped firing shots and couldn outmuscled ... Won title by outpointing a fading legend in Ross, retained it an amazing 11 times in 1939 ... In all, made division-record successful defenses ... Among title fight victims: Ceferino Garcia, Montanez, and Baby Arizmendi.

**2 Sugar Ray Robinson:** Better known as middleweight, but reig as 147-pound king for four years and risked title five times wit a loss ... Those who rate him first at middleweight *and* welter a legitimate argument ... Turned pro at lightweight and was facing w class welters only a year later; at the time such progress was unhear ... Some of the fighters he defeated *before* winning the vacant welter Marty Servo, Fritzie Zivic, Sammy Angott, Izzy Jannazzo, Jake LaM (four times), George Costner, and Armstrong ... Toughest title fight against Tommy Bell, but most impressive was 15-round mastery of fu champion Kid Gavilan ... Desperate for competition (and hefty pay turned to middleweights at age 29.

## A NOTCH BELOW

**Jack Britton** and **Ted "Kid" Lewis** fought each other 19 times and traded the title in the teens and early-'20s. They were two of th best fighters of the no-decision era ... **Mickey Walker** struggled t make 147 pounds, but was an overwhelming pressure fighter during his stay ... Cuban-born **Jose Napoles** made 13 defenses over two reigns. He was fast and incredibly smooth, and his left hook was near-perfect ... The versatile **Emile Griffith** was better at welt than middleweight, and good enough at 147 to beat championship quality fighters such as Luis Rodriguez (three of four) and Benn Paret (two of three).

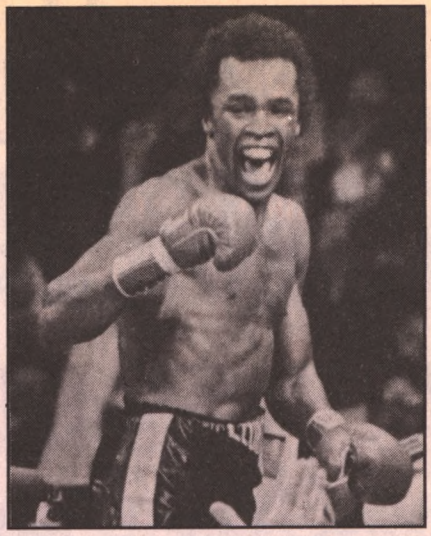
3 **Sugar Ray Leonard:** Is given credit by most historians, but only begrudgingly ... Standing undoubtedly suffers because of image; played game his way and rewrote most of rules ... Was fortunate to peak during strongest stretch in division history ... In late-'70s and early-'80s, 147-pound ratings included Carlos Palomino, Wilfred Benitez, Pipino Cuevas, Roberto Duran, and Thomas Hearns; won WBC title from Benitez, split pair of memorable bouts vs. Duran, and rallied from behind to kayo Hearns in unforgettable unification battle ... Also fought tough tramp (Randy Shields, Pete Ranzany, middleweight Marcos Geraldo) during development ... Featured wonderful mix of speed, skills, chin, and championship heart.

4 **Barney Ross:** Third fighter in history to win titles in three different divisions ... Even during welter title reign, was never more than blown-up 140-pounder ... Scaled only 137¾ for title-winning effort against arch-rival McLarnin ... Compensated for lack of size and power with sharp counterpunching skills, sound defense, and one of best chins in ring history ... Was never stopped in 81 career bouts ... Is rated ahead of McLarnin only because he defeated Irishman in two of three bouts ... Also defeated Izzy Jannazzo and Ceferino Garcia in title fights ... Was only 28 but well past prime when he lost title to Armstrong in last bout of career ... Undeniably one of greatest fighters of all-time, but it can be argued he peaked before he became a welter.

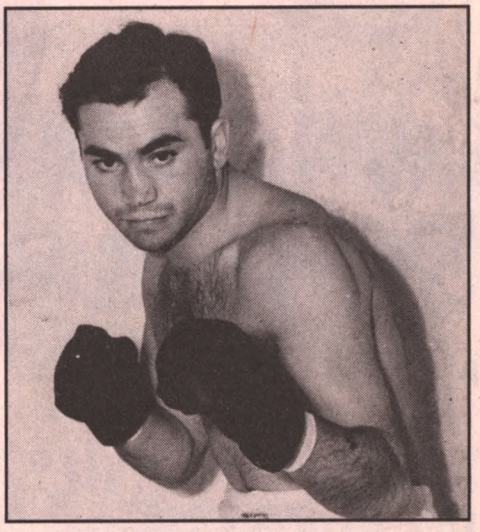
5 **Jimmy McLarnin:** Like Ross, fought most of bouts at lower weights (turned pro as flyweight), but campaigned for last seven years of career at or near 147 ... *Unlike* Ross, flaunted tremendous power, especially with right hand ... In late-'20s and early-'30s, was most feared puncher in game, scoring quickie kayos over the likes of world-class foes Kid Kaplan, Sid Terris, Joe Glick, Sammy Baker, Ruby Goldstein, Al Singer, Young Corbet III, and a comebacking Benny Leonard ... Could also box his way to victory, as proved during points victory over legendary triple-crown king Tony Canzoneri ... Made no successful defenses in two reigns, but merits fifth spot because of overall talent and level of competition ... All champs should exit in such a manner: Retired at age 29, and off wins over Canzoneri and Lou Ambers.

## UNDERRATED & OVERRATED

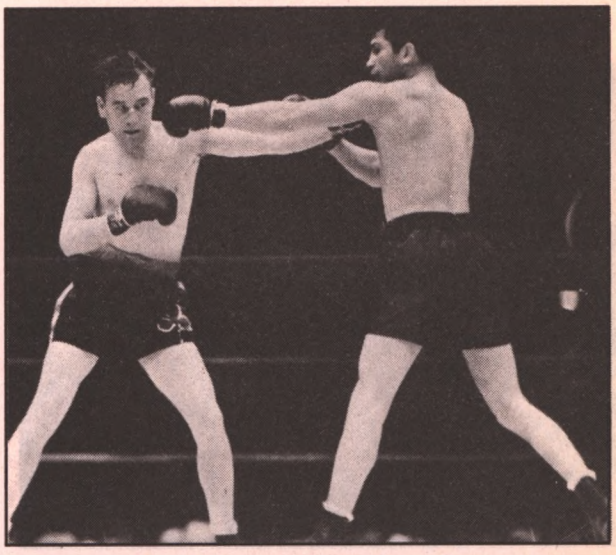
**Underrated: Thomas Hearns** lost the two most important fights of his career (vs. Leonard and Marvin Hagler), and his place in history will suffer because of it. But on the night he was kayoed by Leonard, he would've beaten just about any other welter you care to name ... **Overrated: Carmen Basilio** was as tough as the toughest, but those who rate him among the best tend to overemphasize his victory over Robinson, which came at middleweight. It's easy to forget that before winning the 147-pound crown, he lost to, among others, Lester Felton, Ross Virgo, Johnny Cesario, Chuck Davey, Billy Graham, and Kid Gavilan.



*Sugar Ray Leonard*



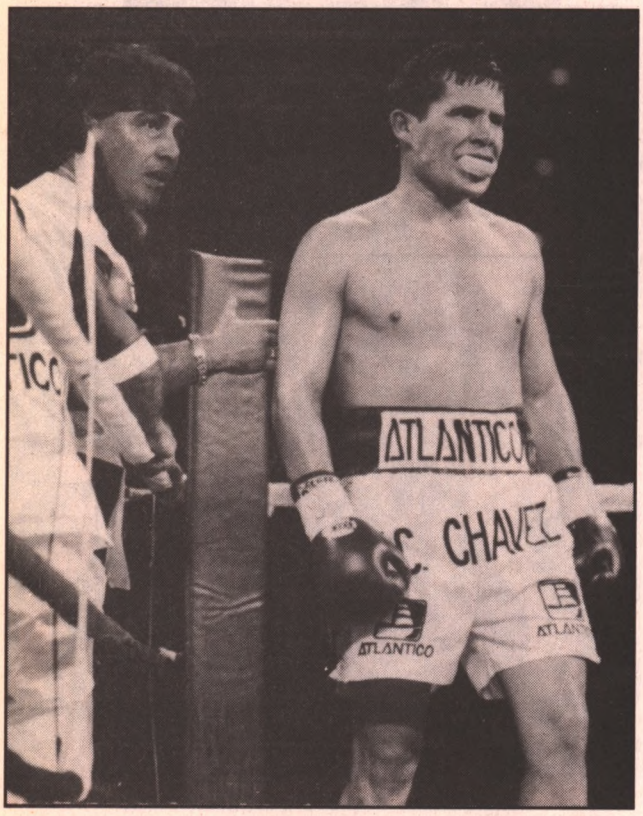
*Barney Ross*



*Jimmy McLarnin (left) edges Barney Ross*

# JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHTS

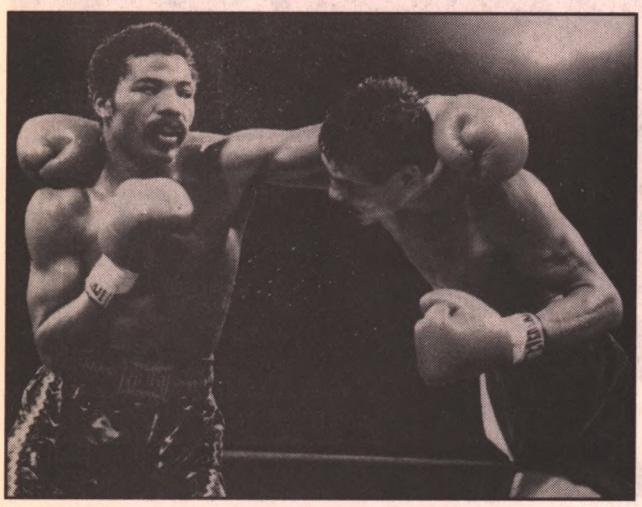
## 1. Julio Cesar Chavez 2. Aaron Pryor 3. Barney Ross 4. Antonio Cervantes 5. Jack "Kid" Berg




*Julio Cesar Chavez*

**1 Julio Cesar Chavez:** Plenty of Chavez-watchers insist "[illegible] Superstar" was better at junior lightweight and lightweight, [illegible] lengthiest reign has come at 140 ... Hard to argue with the [illegible] bers: At this weight, Chavez is 13-0 in world title bouts; unified [illegible] thirds of title with last-second stoppage of a peaking Meldrick Taylor; [illegible] became consensus choice as boxing's best fighter, which he held until [illegible] controversial draw vs. welter champ Pernell Whitaker in September ... Relies on superior punching technique, ability to cut off ring, vicious body attack, stamina, and incredible chin ... Maybe he's no welterweight, but so what? ... Don't forget, Sugar Ray Robinson failed to win [illegible] heavyweight title, too ... Dream bout vs. Pryor would have been a classic

**2 Aaron Pryor:** Ironic that had "The Hawk" secured deserved try at lightweight title, his jump to junior welter would have come much later in career ... Prime ended before age 30, largely due to self-destructive lifestyle ... Unbeaten during electrifying 10-year run, [illegible] until cocaine turned him into pathetic shell ... Took title from legendary but aging Cervantes and made 10 defenses, including two kayos of hall-of famer and triple-crown king Alexis Arguello ... First Arguello bout, chosen as best fight of '80s, featured Pryor at best, boxing, punching, and bringing unique intensity to every round ... Like Chavez, brought respect to junior divisions, which, during 140-pound reigns of Ross, Berg, and Tony Canzoneri, were mere afterthoughts.



*Aaron Pryor trades with Alexis Arguello*

## A NOTCH BELOW

**Wilfred Benitez** became the youngest world champion in history when, at age 17, he masterfully outboxed Cervantes. Unmatched defensively, the prodigy went on to become a triple-crown champion. At 140, however, his reign was brief and unexceptional ... **Nicolino Locche** couldn't pop a balloon; he scored 14 kayos in 136 career bouts. But he was a defensive master who made five successful defenses of the WBA title, including a decision over Cervantes ... **Tony Canzoneri** was more accomplished as a lightweight. Still, he defeated Berg and Kid Chocolate in 140-pound title fights.

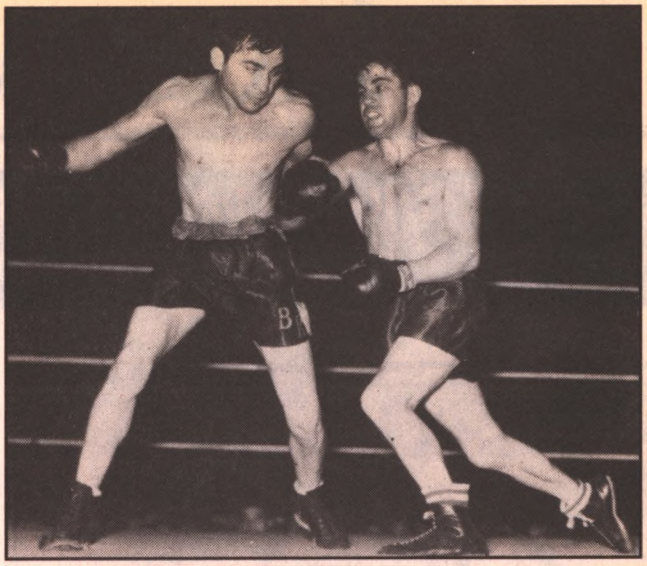
3 **Barney Ross:** Triple-crown champion is better known as lightweight and welter titlist, but 140-pound crown was at stake in 10 of his 16 world title fights ... Never a natural 140-pounder; fought at or near 135 ... Won both lightweight and junior welter titles by questionable split decision over Tony Canzoneri in 1933 ... Gained respect by outpointing Canzoneri, though again by split verdict, in rematch three months later ... Also retained title vs., among others, reigning junior lightweight champion Frankie Klick and former 140-pound title claimant Jimmy Fuller ... Vacated throne after topping world welter king Jimmy McLarnin ... Reign lasted two years ... Belongs ahead of Pryor on list of all-time greats, but not at this weight; too many of biggest triumphs came at welter.

4 **Antonio Cervantes:** "Kid Pambele" was greatest fighter in history of Colombia ... Campaigned at junior welter for most of 20-year career ... Tall (5'10"), long-armed counterpuncher who possessed innate ability to slip punches by inch or two ... Enjoyed two lengthy reigns as WBA king, making total of 16 successful defenses, most of them on road ... Lost crown first to Wilfred Benitez, then, at age 34, to Pryor ... Among championship bout victims: world titlists Peppermint Frazer, Nicolino Locche, and Esteban DeJesus, and outstanding challengers Hector Thompson and Miguel Montilla ... Might have rated higher, but never attempted to unify by taking on WBC champion Bruno Arcari ... Moreover, oft-rumored bout vs. lightweight king Roberto Duran failed to materialize.

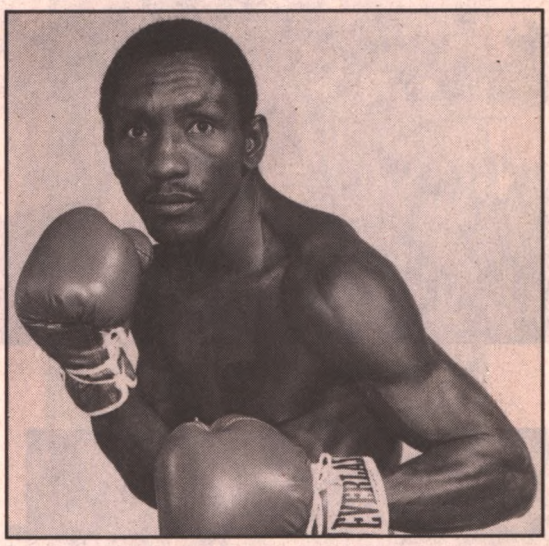
5 **Jack "Kid" Berg:** Doesn't have championship record to match such 140-pounders as Bruno Arcari, Nicolino Locche, and Saensak Muangsurin, but was briefly regarded as best fighter in world, a claim aforementioned trio can't even begin to make ... Style was simple: "Whitechapel Whirlwind" threw more punches than any fighter of his era ... Became instant fan favorite after moving from London to New York in the late-'20s ... Managed career's worth of accomplishments in 10-month period of 1930; outpointed superstar Tony Canzoneri, won 140-pound crown by stopping Mushy Callahan, decisioned nemesis Billy Petrolle, and in sensational battle, issued first loss to Cuban legend Kid Chocolate ... Lost crown to Canzoneri after reign of only one year and never regained world-class status.

## UNDERRATED & OVERRATED

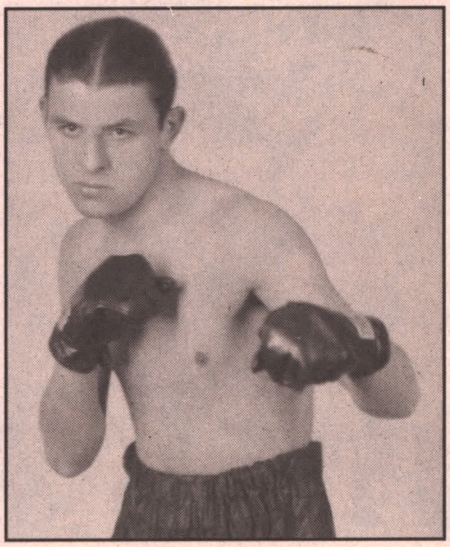
**Underrated:** Italy's **Bruno Arcari** was a 5'5" southpaw who made eight defenses of the WBC crown before vacating. He kept the title 4½ years and went unbeaten over the last 61 bouts of his career ... **Overrated:** Statistically, Argentina's **Juan Coggi** has been impressive. The reigning WBA champion has made nine successful defenses over two reigns, but the level of his competition has been mediocre. How many rounds do you think he'd last with Chavez, the division's *real* champion?



*Barney Ross goes toe to toe with Frankie Klick*



*Antonio Cervantes*



*Jack "Kid" Berg*

# LIGHTWEIGHTS

**1. Roberto Duran 2. Benny Leonard 3. Joe Gans**
**4. Tony Canzoneri 5. Ike Williams**

*Roberto Duran finishes Ray Lampkin*

*Benny Leonard*

1 **Roberto Duran:** Even crusty historians who generally dismiss modern era rate "Manos De Piedra" with the greatest fighters ... Edges Leonard for top spot, but strong argument can be the other way ... Held title 6½ years and made a record 12 consecutive defenses before vacating ... Had reputation as coal-eyed, foam-at-mouth killer, but, as proven by masterful victories over arch-rival Ernesto DeJesus, came to understand pace and learned to apply strategy ... far more polished fighter at end of reign than when he overwhelmed Buchanan to win crown ... Quality of challengers was strong (Davey Moore, against whom he unified title, Ray Lampkin, Edwin Viruet, Vilomar Fernandez, Guts Suzuki, and Hector Thompson) ... Went on to be one of only three four-division titlists.

2 **Benny Leonard:** You can't always go by the record book: Leonard made five successful defenses, and in that regard can't match Duran, Gans, Joe Brown, Carlos Ortiz, or even Ad Wolgast ... but for almost 50 years he was the lightweight all 135-pounders were measured against ... Was a brilliant tactician in an era dominated by sluggers Jack Dempsey, Harry Greb, and Mickey Walker ... Was always a thinking man's fighter, but developed ample power as he progressed ... Fought during no-decision era ... Engaged in 80 non-title bouts during 7½ year reign, and in addition to title fight victories over Freddie Welsh, Johnny Kansas, and Lew Tendler, topped Jack Britton, Johnny Dundee and Johnny Kilbain ... A fighter far ahead of his time.

## A NOTCH BELOW

**Alexis Arguello** was the ultimate professional and a natural puncher who kept his power upon jumping up in weight. Most impressive wins were spread over three divisions, and standing offers because of it, especially in all-time featherweight and light weight rankings ... Gifted southpaw **Pernell Whitaker** has dominated division as few lightweights have, but quality of competition keeps him out of top five ... **Carlos Ortiz** reigned twice and made combined nine successful defenses. When in top condition, was inspired boxer-puncher ... Tough **Lou Ambers** was good enough to have beaten Canzoneri and Henry Armstrong.

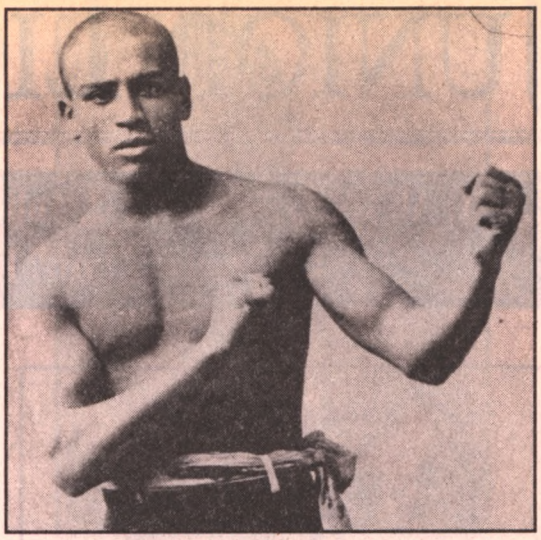
3 **Joe Gans:** Reigned twice and made a combined 14 successful defenses ... Advancement was retarded and opportunities minimized because he was black ... Was stopped by Frank Erne in first title try, but gained revenge in rematch by scoring first-round kayo ... Was first scientific boxer of new century ... From late-1900, when stopped by reigning featherweight champion Terry McGovern in fight believed to have been fixed, until 1908, "The Old Master" lost only once, to the bigger Sam Langford ... Vacated throne in 1904 because of difficulty in making division limit (then 133 pounds) ... Certified greatness by coming back two years later and, despite suffering broken hand, regaining crown with brilliant 42nd-round disqualification victory over rugged Battling Nelson.

4 **Tony Canzoneri:** Tried for NBA bantamweight crown at age 18 and went on to win world feather, lightweight, and junior welter crowns ... Fought during talent-rich era, and because he campaigned from 118 to 140 pounds, met a higher level of competition than anyone else ... A partial listing of quality foes: Andre Routis, Bud Taylor, Sammy Dundee, Benny Bass, Al Singer, Sammy Mandell, Jackie Berg, Kid Chocolate, Billy Petrolle, Jackie Jadick, Barney Ross, Baby Arizmendi, Lou Ambers, and Jimmy McLarnin ... A 5'5" pressure fighter who was both aggressive and skilled ... Was stopped only once, in last bout of 175-bout career ... Reigned twice at 135 and made a combined five successful defenses ... In title fights, topped Singer, Berg, Chocolate, Petrolle, and Ambers.

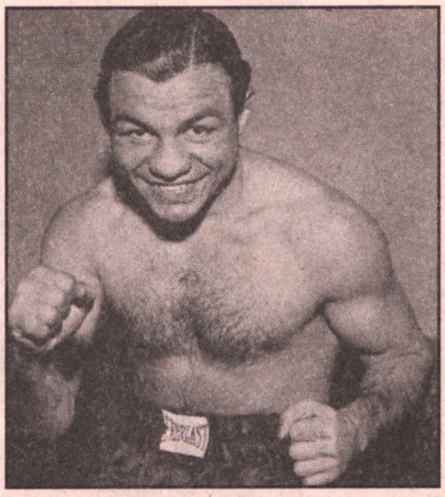
5 **Ike Williams:** Long-reigning titlist rates among hardest punchers in division history ... Punches were particularly short, compact, and lethal ... Was strong enough to regularly compete against world-class welters like George Costner, Kid Gavilan, and Johnny Bratton ... Won NBA title with brutal kayo of Juan Zurita in 1945, and two years later secured universal recognition by blasting out former conqueror and bitter rival Bob Montgomery ... Kept crown for six years and made eight successful defenses, including kayos of Enrique Bolanos and Beau Jack ... Regularly defended on road ... Was well-connected—managed by gangster Blinky Palermo from 1946 to end of career—but is nonetheless regarded as all-time great.

## UNDERRATED & OVERRATED

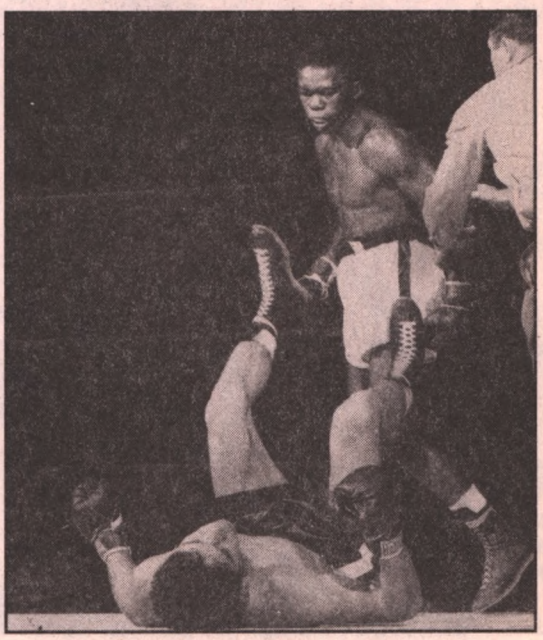
**Underrated: Jimmy Carter** won and lost title three times each. Was somewhat colorless but technically proficient. Topped, among others, Williams, Art Aragon, Lauro Salas, and Paddy DeMarco ... **Overrated: Joe Brown** reigned for 5½ years and made 11 successful defenses, but defeated handful of unexceptional challengers.



*Joe Gans*



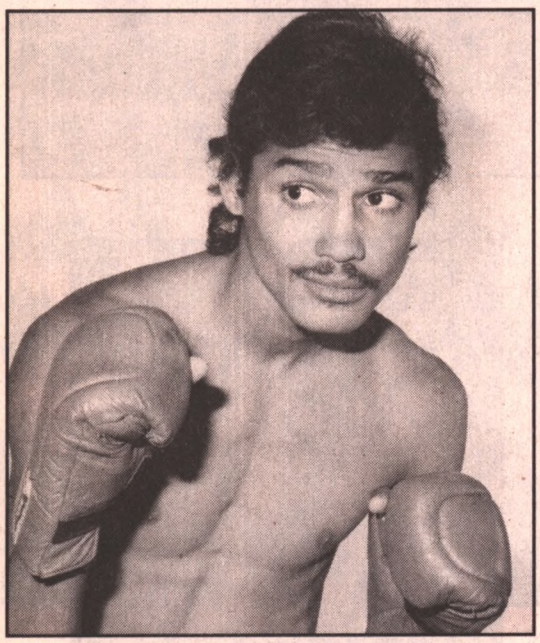
*Tony Canzoneri*



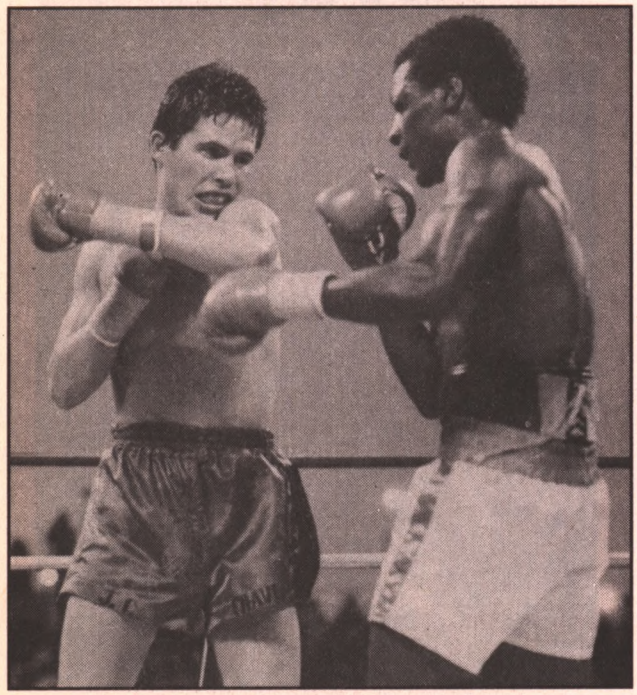
*Ike Williams kayos Jesse Flores*

# JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHTS

**1. Alexis Arguello 2. Julio Cesar Chavez 3. Azumah Nelson**
**4. Gabriel "Flash" Elorde 5. Alfredo Escalera**



*Alexis Arguello*



*Julio Cesar Chavez swarms against Dwight Pratchett*

1 **Alexis Arguello:** Tough call between Arguello and Chav Arguello made eight defenses, Chavez nine; Arguello risk crown against four world champions, Chavez three; Arg reigned for 2½ years, Chavez three; both vacated the title and the ceeded at a higher weight; neither unified the title ... In Arguello's he was crowned after knocking out an outstanding champion in A Escalera, while Chavez defeated the unbeaten but unaccomplished Martinez to capture a vacant title ... Moreover, at the start of his the Nicaraguan was a mature 25 and a veteran of world-class compe ... Chavez, on the other hand, was 22, and relatively green; his p opposition was mediocre.

2 **Julio Cesar Chavez:** Went on to win lightweight title and is ing a lengthy run as junior welter champ ... Feeling here unlike most multidivision titlists, improved as he rose in we Of all champs in '80s and early-'90s, only Jeff Fenech cut off r better ... Victories over former world champions Juan LaPorte and Lockridge were not all that convincing ... First proved strength of c defense against Roger Mayweather, who connected with first-round cross that would have leveled a skyscraper ... Has never really been much less dropped ... Failed to unify title, but only because there wa demand for bout vs. WBA king Brian Mitchell ... Didn't gain st world's best fighter until well into 140-pound reign.

## A NOTCH BELOW

**Tod Morgan** was division's first long-reigning champion made 11 successful defenses. Fought in '20s, when junior cla earned little respect. Still, topped quality opposition in M Ballerino, Johnny Dundee, Joe Glick, and Eddie Martin ... L Elorde, **Ben Villaflor** was southpaw from Philippines. Powerpun reigned twice and made combined six successful defenses. Top among others, Kuniaki Shibata and Yasutsune Uehara, and drew Sammy Serrano ... **Hector Camacho** made only one defens WBC title before jumping to lightweight, but in brief stay displ unusual speed and skills.

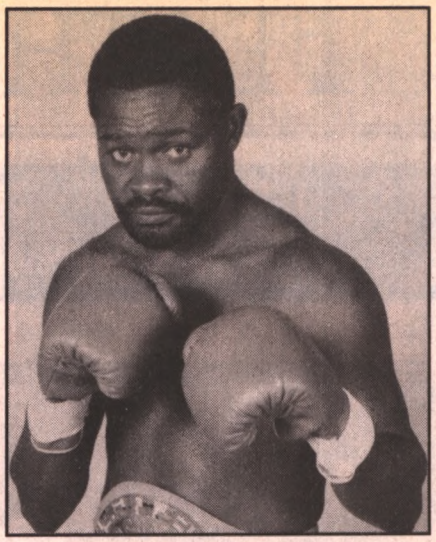
3 **Azumah Nelson:** As we went to press, "The Professor," a spry 35, was preparing for rematch defense vs. Jesse James Leija ... Bout was to be farewell at 130; scheduled to challenge WBC lightweight king Miguel Angel Gonzalez later this year ... Versatile boxer-puncher with keen sense of pace ... Held WBC featherweight crown for three years in mid-'80s ... Won vacant title by outpointing Mario Martinez in 1988, and is longest-reigning world champion in boxing ... Has made 10 successful defenses, including wins over Juan LaPorte, Calvin Grove, and Gabe Ruelas ... Makes top five, however, because of upset kayo of triple-crown champion Jeff Fenech in challenger's native Australia; eight months earlier, rivals struggled to controversial draw.

4 **Gabriel "Flash" Elorde:** Filipino legend reigned for division-record seven years, made 10 successful defenses, and brought division much-needed credibility ... Risked crown almost exclusively at home ... Failed in quest for featherweight crown (vs. Sandy Saddler) and lightweight title (vs. Carlos Ortiz) ... Coronation at either weight would have earned him universal rep as one of greatest fighters of '50s and '60s ... Unlike Arguello, Chavez, and Nelson, reigned as undisputed king ... Southpaw who relied on speed and powerful left cross ... Best title fight opponents were Harold Gomes (against whom he won crown), Joey Lopes, and Teruo Kosaka ... Had engaged in 70 pro bouts before winning title—turned pro at 16—but seemed to improve after being crowned.

5 **Alfredo Escalera:** "Snakeman" would likely have doubled 2½-year WBC title reign had he avoided Arguello ... Showed as much heart in pair of losses to arch-rival as Arguello did in twice losing to Aaron Pryor ... Good puncher with exceptional speed ... Can't be rated higher because seventh of 10 successful defenses was outrageous points win over talented Tyrone Everett, perhaps worst decision of '70s ... Won crown by kayoing dangerous champion in Kuniaki Shibata ... Frequently defended on road, though quality of competition (Leonel Hernandez, Sven-Erik Paulsen, Buzzsaw Yamabe) was underwhelming ... Would have gained tons of respect by defeating either Ben Villaflor or Sammy Serrano, both of whom reigned as WBA king during reign.

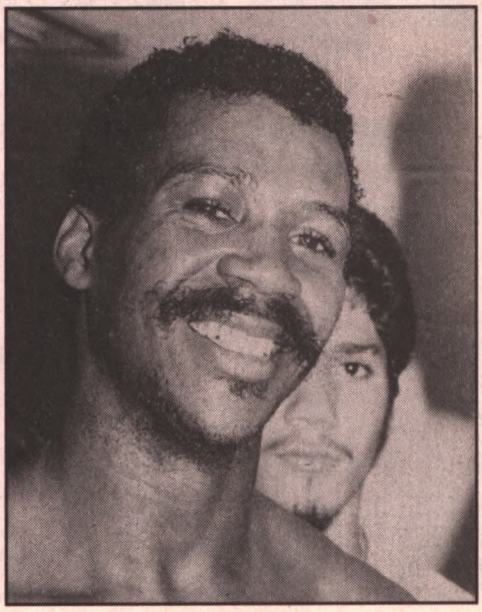
## UNDERRATED & OVERRATED

**Underrated: Brian Mitchell** kept WBA title for almost five years and made division-record 12 successful consecutive defenses. With politics preventing him from risking crown in native South Africa, took to road for all 12 defenses. Lack of exceptional opposition keeps him out of top five ... **Overrated:** Two-time champion **Sammy Serrano** was a WBA favorite. Managed to register a combined 13 successful defenses, but Villaflor and Diablito Valdez aside, his opposition was uninspiring. Defensive specialist who was often difficult to watch.



*Azumah Nelson*

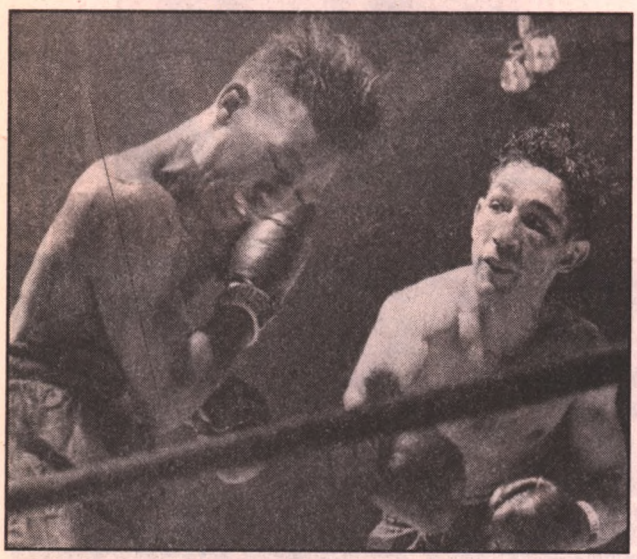
*Flash Elorde guns for Love Allotey*



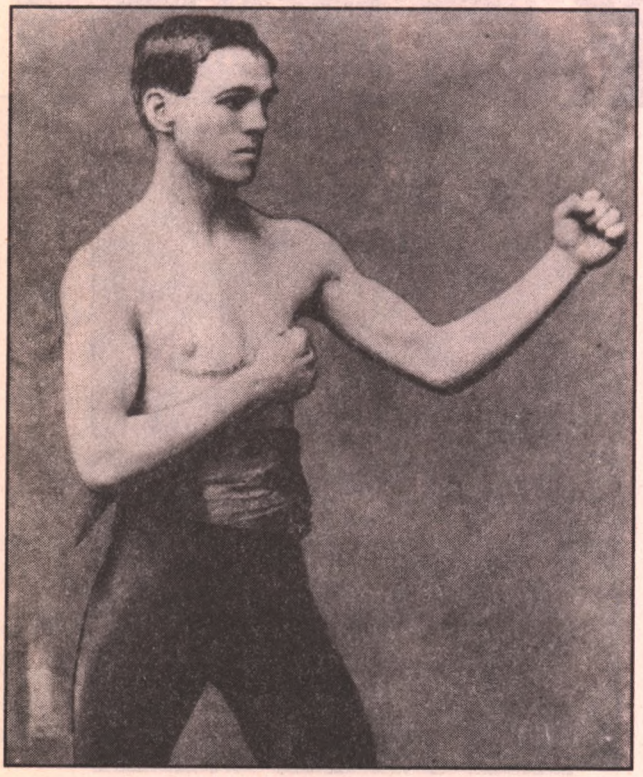
*Alfredo Escalera*

# FEATHERWEIGHTS

## 1. Willie Pep 2. Terry McGovern 3. Abe Attell 4. Sandy Saddler 5. Salvador Sanchez



*Willie Pep battles Chalky Wright*



*Terry McGovern*

**1 Willie Pep:** Undeniably greatest defensive fighter of all-[time]. Simply didn't like to get hit, and used quick, subtle move[ments] frustrate foes ... At one point, boasted of record of 12[5] unthinkable today ... Made nine successful defenses over two reig[ns] 7½ years ... Defeated every world-class feather of era, including [Sandy] Sal Bartolo, Phil Terranova, and underrated Chalky Wright ... Take[n] enough to secure top spot, but legend was enhanced by quick re[turn] from back injuries suffered in 1947 plane crash ... Fair question: H[ow] he be rated above Saddler, who beat him three of four? ... As g[reat] Saddler was, reign was fairly undistinguished ... Besides, Pep's points win over arch-rival was greatest single performance in divisio[nal] tory.

**2 Terry McGovern:** Modern day champions like Carlos Z[amora], Wilfredo Gomez, and Ruben Olivares owe "Terrible Terry" time; destructive Pennsylvanian was first lighter-weights cha[mp] to prove small fighters can punch, too ... Briefly reigned as ba[nt] champ in 1899 ... Won world feather title by dethroning lege[nd] George Dixon, who was well past prime ... Made six successful defe[nses] all by kayo ... Knocked out title claimant Eddie Santry and Joe Ber[ger] in defenses, and in non-title bouts, lightweight legends Frank Er[ne] Joe Gans ... Prime was brief: Won title at age 19, and championship were over by 21 ... Personally set division limit at 126 pounds ... [Named] as best feather of all-time by THE RING founder Nat Fleischer.

## A NOTCH BELOW

**Eusebio Pedroza** made 19 successful defenses of WBA title [and] reigned for division-record seven years. Defeated, among [others] Rocky Lockridge, Juan LaPorte, Ruben Olivares, and Jorge L[ujan] and drew with Bernard Taylor ... **George Dixon** was called "[the] fighter without a flaw." Dominated division in 1890s despite [his] puffed-up bantam ... **Jim Driscoll** was master boxer from W[ales] who reigned as British world champion in 1912 and '13. Sh[ared] Attell in non-title 10-rounder in 1909 ... Another classic b[out] **Johnny Kilbane**, dethroned Attell and made nine successful def[en]ses. Retained crown against, among others, Johnny Dundee, George Chaney, and in non-title bouts topped lightweights Fr[ank] Welsh, Rocky Kansas, and Benny Leonard.

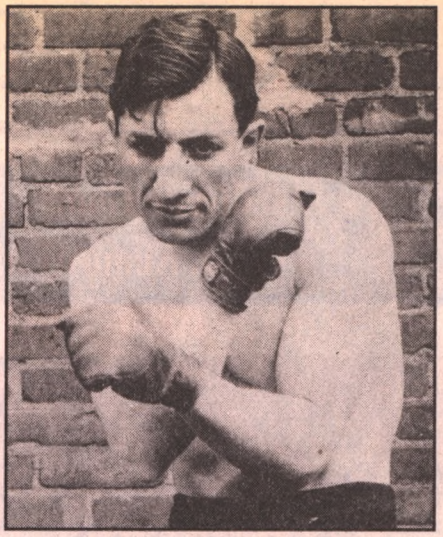
3 **Abe Attell:** Shrewd 5'4" stylist was among first classy boxers of new century ... Nonetheless scored kayos in 10 world title fights ... Reigned twice and made combined 22 successful defenses ... Second reign lasted almost five years ... Risked crown vs. handful of noteworthy foes, including bantam champ Harry Forbes, Frankie Conley, eventual conqueror Johnny Kilbane, and England's Owen Moran, against whom he fought two controversial draws ... Colorful figure who would do anything to win; distracted foes by talking during bouts, and provided motivation by betting heavily on himself to win ... Gained notoriety shortly after fighting days were over when he participated in fixing 1919 World Series.

4 **Sandy Saddler:** Stood 5'8½", and possessed unimaginable strength and power for weight ... Also remembered as one of chippiest champions in history ... Won vacant junior lightweight title and regularly topped world-class lightweights ... Defeated Pep three of four times (all by stoppage), but arch-rival was arguably past prime ... Made only three successful defenses, all coming in second reign, which lasted more than six years ... Can't question quality of challengers; risked crown against Pep, "Red Top" Davis, and future junior lightweight king Flash Elorde ... Reign was interrupted by military service (in 1952 and '53) and cut short by health problems ... Retired as champion in 1957 after sustaining injuries in car accident.

5 **Salvador Sanchez:** WBC champion was killed in auto accident at age 23 ... Lost only once in 46 career bouts and went unbeaten as champion ... Despite abbreviated run, accomplished much: Dethroned one of division's greatest punchers in Danny Lopez; made nine defenses, beating, among others, Juan LaPorte, Ruben Castillo, triple-crown champion Wilfredo Gomez, and future star Azumah Nelson; and established himself as one of greatest fighters in Mexican boxing history ... Didn't fight in typical Mexican manner; educated counterpuncher who relied on strong jaw and exceptional stamina ... Would have been rated higher had he beaten co-champion Eusebio Pedroza ... Makes top five ahead of Panamanian, but had trouble against speedy, clever boxers and guess here is he would have been outpointed in unification bout because of styles.

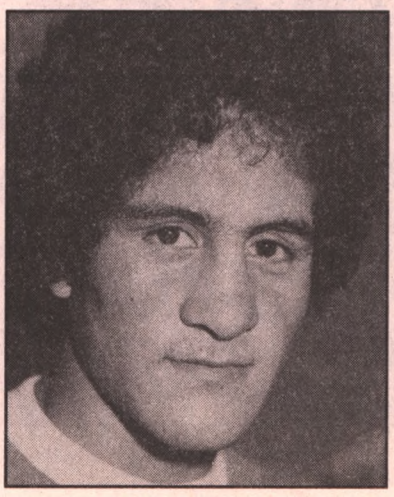
## UNDERRATED & OVERRATED

**Underrated: Vicente Saldivar** was a Mexican southpaw with the strength of a welterweight. After making seven successful defenses, retired at age 24, then returned to regain crown 2½ years later. Defeated exceptionally tough opposition, including Howard Winstone (three times), Sugar Ramos, Raul Rojas, Floyd Robertson, Mitsunori Seki, and a young Ismael Laguna ... **Overrated: Danny** Lopez was among hardest punchers in history of lighter weights, but lacked speed and defense. Pre-title losses to Bobby Chacon, Octavio Gomez, and Shig Fukuyama were as revealing as successful defenses against David Kotey, Juan Malvarez, and Mike Ayala.



*Abe Attell*

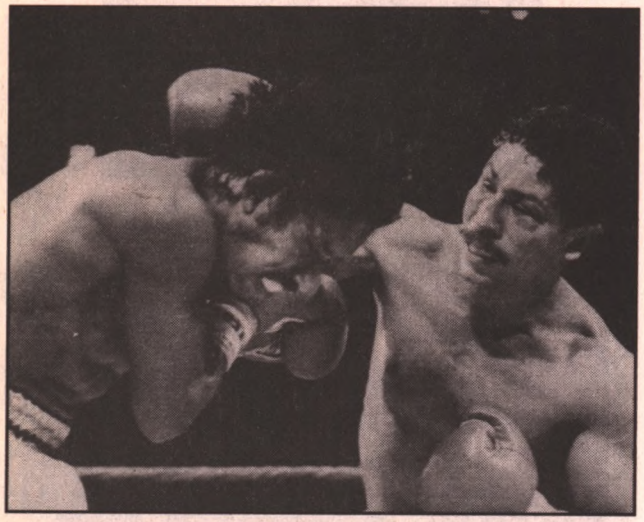
*Sandy Saddler follows through vs. Billy Bossio*



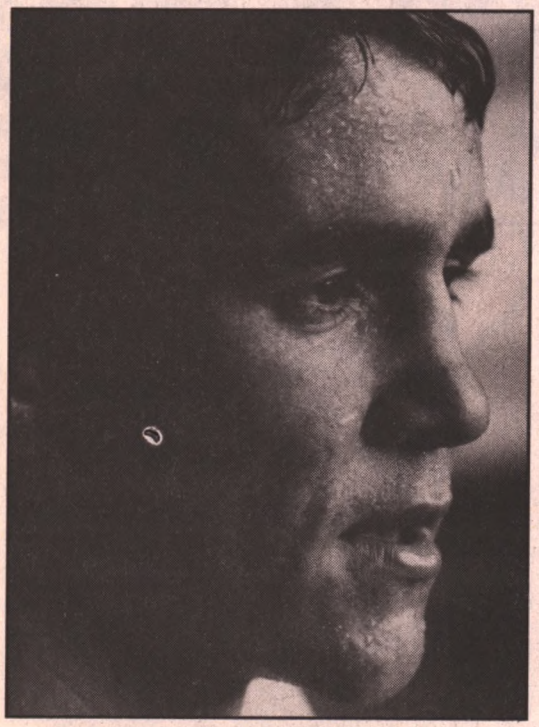
*Salvador Sanchez*

# JUNIOR FEATHERWEIGHT

## 1. Wilfredo Gomez 2. Jeff Fenech 3. Sergio Palma 4. Kennedy McKinney 5. Victor Callejas



*Wilfredo Gomez rocks Lupe Pintor*



*Jeff Fenech*

**1 Wilfredo Gomez:** Gap between number one and the rest of fi is larger than in any other division ... Weight class is 18 yea and Puerto Rican is only superstar ever produced ... Won title in 1977 only because couldn't secure shot at bantam crown ... title for six years and made division-record 17 successful defens Went unbeaten at weight and subsequently won world titles at feather junior lightweight ... Devastating two-fisted puncher who scored k all 18 title fights at 122 ... Could also flaunt brilliant defensive ski Only weakness was questionable chin, but was never a problem a weight ... Scored two monumental wins, both over reigning champs, Carlos Zarate and Lupe Pintor ... Loss to feather c Salvador Sanchez hurt overall standing.

**2 Jeff Fenech:** Australian triple-crown champion made four-fig stop here in 1986-'87 ... Weight problems, which forced jump bantam to junior feather, ultimately brought rise to feather ... WBC crown by steamrolling unbeaten Samart Payakarun and succes ly defended against difficult Greg Richardson and comebacking C Zarate ... Punished Payakarun so severely over four rounds that retired and became Buddhist monk ... Also scored non-title point over two-division world champ Daniel Zaragoza before vacating h throne ... Fought with Duran-like intensity; cut off ring with ease punished foes with all-out attack ... Relatively unaccomplished at w and rated second only because of lack of outstanding champions.

## A NOTCH BELOW

**Ricardo Cardona** reigned as WBA champ from 1978-'80 made five defenses before being dethroned by Leo Randolph (5'8"), flashy Colombian defeated, among others, Palma and Hwan Hong. To his credit, he often fought on road ... Soo Hw **Hong** held bantam title (WBA) before reigning at 122 pounds, so thing precious few junior feather champs have accomplished. M only one defense of WBA title before being dethroned by Ki Cardona ... **Jaime Garza** was a tremendous puncher (42 kay first 44 wins), which at least made him fun to watch. Didn't have chin, however, for long-term success at world-class level.

**Sergio Palma:** Underrated Argentine enjoyed strong three-year run at start of '80s ... Ended 1979 with points loss to defending WBA champion Ricardo Cardona, but captured title eight months later by scoring surprise kayo of Cardona's conqueror, Leo Randolph ... Made five successful defenses against reasonably tough opposition, including Cardona, Leo Cruz, and Jorge Lujan, which in this humble division is more than enough to catapult him into all-time top five ... Not rated, however, among top-10 Argentine fighters in history ... Possessed limited power but was physically strong, worked well inside, and relied on strong chin; only stoppage loss was last bout of 59-fight career ... Rated ahead of flashier, more hyped Cardona because of consistency.

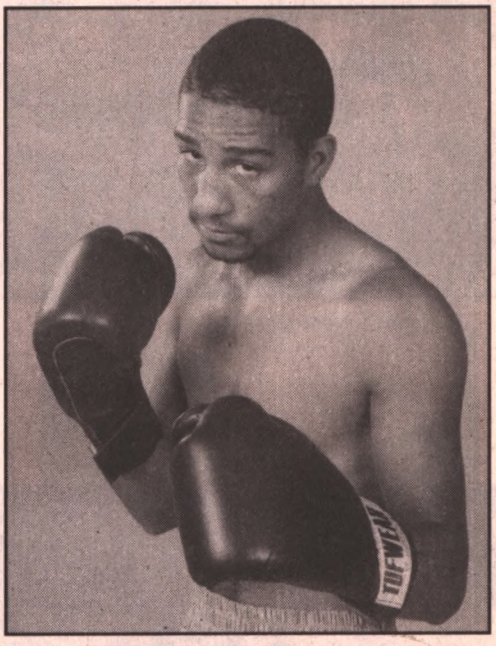
**Kennedy McKinney:** IBF king's goal to is surpass Gomez as best fighter in 122-pound history ... Will undoubtedly rise to feather before registering numbers produced by Gomez ... Will take major step, however, if victorious over WBC champ Tracy Patterson in bout tentatively scheduled for later this year ... Bout will be significant; at this weight, unification matches aren't exactly common ... Rose from canvas to win crown with thrilling one-punch kayo of Welcome Ncita ... Has made three defenses, topping tough comp in Richard Duran, Rudy Zavala, and former titlist Jesus Salud ... Drug problems almost toppled him early in career, but remains unbeaten ... Classy boxer with dominant jab and dangerous right hand.

**Victor Callejas:** Puerto Rican's prime lasted only two years, but showed marvelous skills and considerable potential ... Classic underachiever who, under different circumstances, could have approached level of countryman Gomez ... Loved to trade, and scored kayos in 18 of first 20 wins ... Won WBA title with kayo of Italy's Loris Stecca ... Made two defenses (vs. Seung Hoon Lee and Stecca) before being stripped because of inactivity ... Second kayo of Stecca ranks with Gomez-Pintor, Soo Hwan Hong-Hector Carrasquilla, and Juan Meza-Jaime Garza as best fights in division's brief history ... Returned as featherweight and faced Fenech for vacant WBC title in 1988; suffered one-sided kayo loss and never contended again.

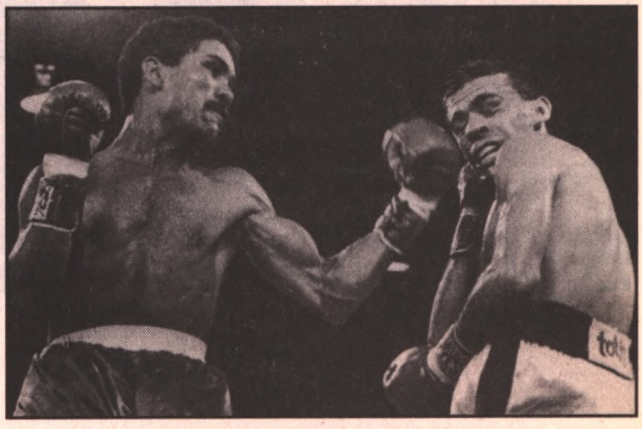
## UNDERRATED & OVERRATED

**Underrated: Welcome Ncita** was 31-0 when dethroned by McKinney. A speedy boxer who could trade when necessary, he made six successful defenses of IBF title. Will likely rebound to reign again ... **Overrated:** Rocky Marciano isn't the only world champion who retired undefeated. Korean southpaw **Ji Won Kim** won IBF crown in 1985, made four defenses, then retired with record of 16-0-2. Level of competition was average, however, and he shouldn't be rated among the division's best.

*Sergio Palma*



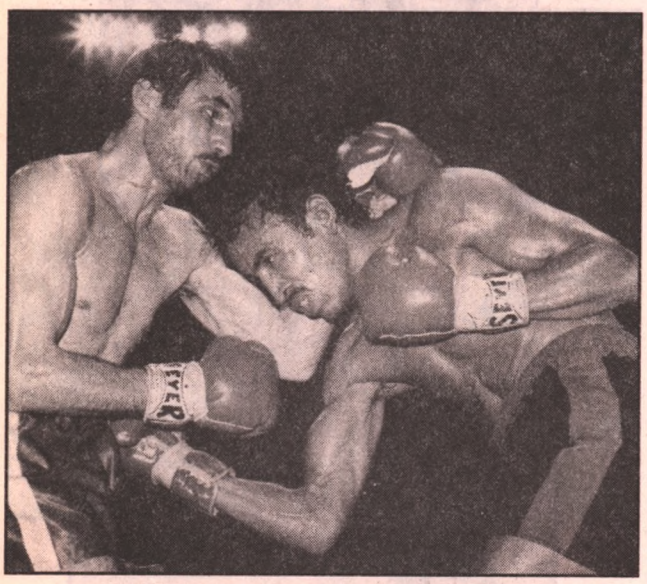
*Kennedy McKinney*



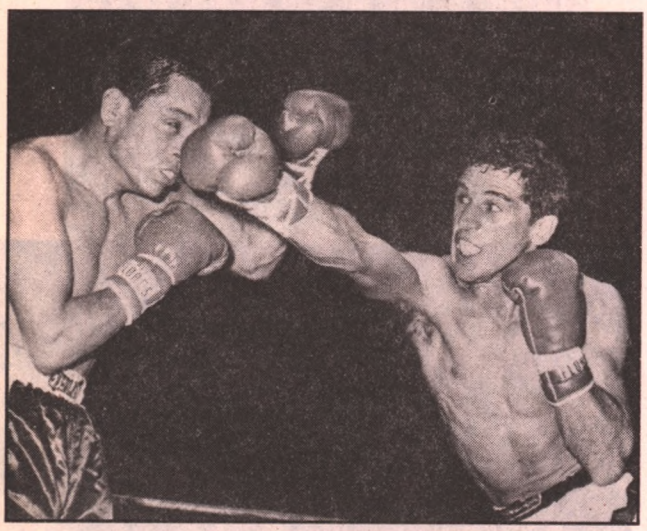
*Victor Callejas crushes Loris Stecca*

# BANTAMWEIGHTS

**1. Carlos Zarate 2. Eder Jofre 3. Ruben Olivares**
**4. Manuel Ortiz 5. Panama Al Brown**



*Carlos Zarate (right) roughs up Paul Ferreri*



*Eder Jofre reaches for Herman Marquez*

1 **Carlos Zarate:** In division full of dominant champs, barely Jofre, Olivares, and Ortiz for top spot ... Tall (5'8") Mexica talized on reach when he chose, but usually relied on st power ... Won first 45 bouts, 44 by kayo ... Reigned as WBC titlis years, making nine successful defenses ... Dethroned excellent fig Rodolfo Martinez and retained crown vs., among others, Albert and Paul Ferreri ... Biggest win was explosive non-title kayo of un WBA king Alfonso Zamora ... That victory elevates him over rest five ... Was considered among world's best fighters, pound for pou 1978 kayo loss to junior feather champ Wilfredo Gomez hurt stand Lost title to Lupe Pintor in one of worst decisions of '70s.

2 **Eder Jofre:** One of two world champions from Brazil (the o Miguel de Oliveira) ... Went unbeaten in first 50 bouts, early-'60s was considered by many experts to be best fight game ... Reputation suffered, however, because only two of 13 worl fights took place in USA ... First won NBA title, then world crow Made eight successful defenses and beat, among others, Eloy San Johnny Caldwell, Jose Medel, and Bernardo Caraballo ... Retired twice losing to Fighting Harada (only two defeats of 78-bout career) cemented reputation as all-time great by coming back and winning t feather title at age 37 ... Flawless fighter; boxed beautifully and c kayo power in both fists ... Won last 25 bouts of career ... Among underrated fighters in history.

## A NOTCH BELOW

Diminutive New Orleans legend **Pete "Kid" Herman** was m ter boxer during teens and early-'20s, which was one of divisio hottest eras. Reigned twice and defeated such world champs Memphis Pal Moore, Johnny Ertle, Kid Williams, Joe Lynch, Johnny Coulon ... **Sixto Escobar** was Puerto Rico's first wo titlist. Enjoyed three reigns and made total of six successful defens Defeated, among others, Lou Salica, Tony Marino, K.O. Morg Indian Quintana, and Harry Jeffra, and was never stopped in career bouts ... **Jeff Chandler** reigned as WBA champ for 3½ ye and made nine successful defenses, but was never able to lure WB king Lupe Pintor into unification match. Was a complete fight whose victims included Jorge Lujan, Eijiro Murata, Gaby Canizal Julian Solis, and Oscar Muniz.

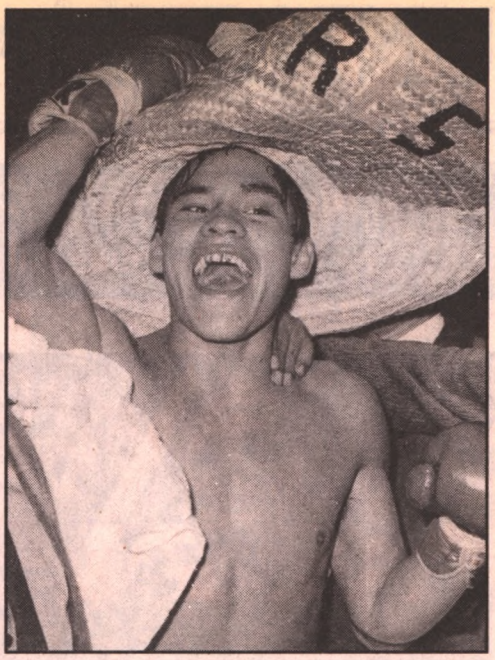
3 **Ruben Olivares:** Statistically, at least, began career even more impressively than Zarate and Jofre; went unbeaten in first 60 fights, scoring 55 kayos ... Like Jofre, also won feather crown (twice), but peaked at 118 ... Reigned twice and made total of four successful defenses ... Defeated impressive array of foes, including countryman and archrival Chucho Castillo, Lionel Rose, Jesus Pimentel, and Alan Rudkin ... Fun-loving Mexican partied with fans who adored him ... Fleshy upper body belied exceptional punching power ... Known for left hook, especially to body ... When young Mexicans are taught to punch, it is "Rockabye Ruben's" hook that is used as model of perfection ... Launched run of awesome Mexican bantie champs that lasted into early-'80s.

4 **Manuel Ortiz:** Californian was greatest American bantie ever ... "Manny was the first man I ever sparred with," said Willie Pep. "That experience alone should have been enough to make me hang up my gloves right then and there" ... Stood 5'4" and made sure to fight inside ... Featured strength of a featherweight and ripping uppercuts with both hands ... Made 19 successful defenses over two reigns, including division-record 15 consecutive ... Reigns lasted a combined seven years ... Defeated, among others, Jackie Jurich, Harold Dade, and Dado Marino in title fights, and in non-title bouts, Lauro Salas and Jackie Paterson ... Most compelling bouts, however, were five wars (2-1-2) vs. drinking buddy Carlos Chavez ... Notorious partier and playboy whose prime was shortened by lifestyle.

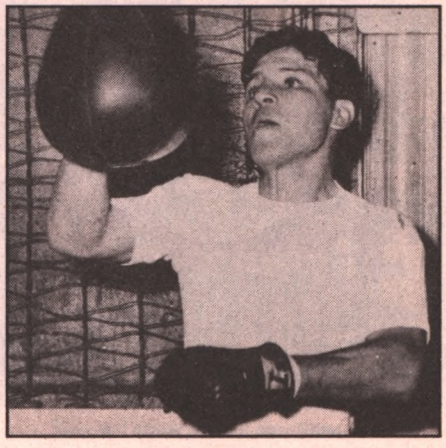
5 **Panama Al Brown:** Panama's first world champ was unusual in several ways: tallest (5'11") titlist in division history; based in New York City, then Europe, and fought almost exclusively on road; highly cultured and sophisticated—spoke seven languages and mixed with likes of Ernest Hemingway ... Given considerable reach advantage, fought in predictable style; scored with sharp jab and was master of footwork ... Was also dangerous puncher, especially with right hand ... Won vacant crown in 1929 and held it for six years and 10 successful defenses ... Victims included Eugene Criqui, Teddy Baldock, Eugene Huat, Ned Tarleton, Spider Pladner, and Baltazar Sangchili ... Lack of outstanding competition cost him higher ranking.

## UNDERRATED & OVERRATED

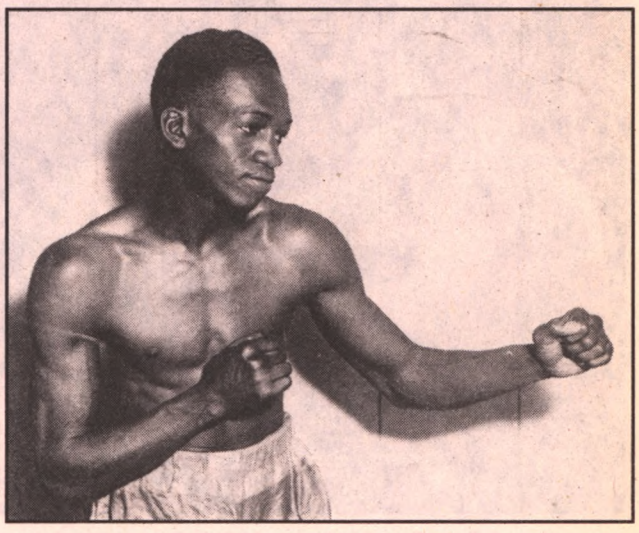
**Underrated: Fighting Harada** is only boxer to have beaten Jofre. Rugged infighter also reigned at flyweight and was robbed of feather title in bout vs. Johnny Famechon. Made four successful defenses, including wins over Alan Rudkin, Joe Medel, and Bernardo Caraballo ... **Overrated: Orlando Canizales** has reigned as IBF champ since 1988. Is extremely talented, but 13 defenses have come against disappointing group of contenders. Will gain lasting respect if unifies at least two-thirds of title; bout vs. WBA king Junior Jones is possibility for later this year.



*Ruben Olivares*



*Manuel Ortiz*

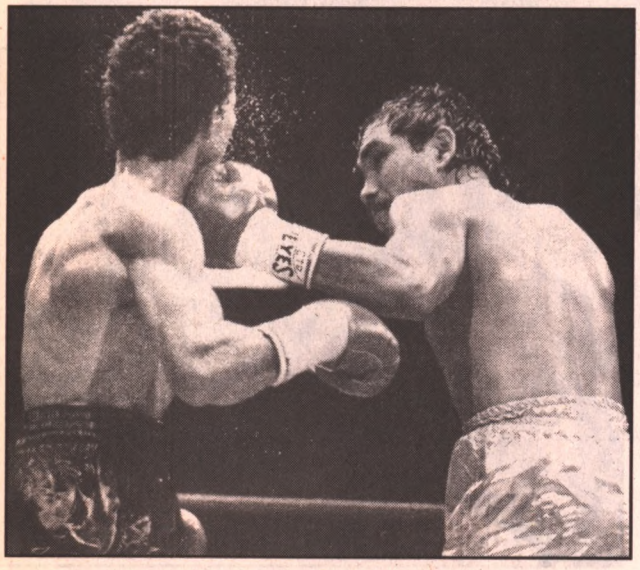


*Panama Al Brown*

# JUNIOR BANTAMWEIGHTS

**1. Khaosai Galaxy  2. Gilberto Roman  3. Jiro Watanabe**
**4. Sung Kil Moon  5. Rafael Orono**

*Khaosai Galaxy*



*Gilberto Roman connects with Juan Carazo*

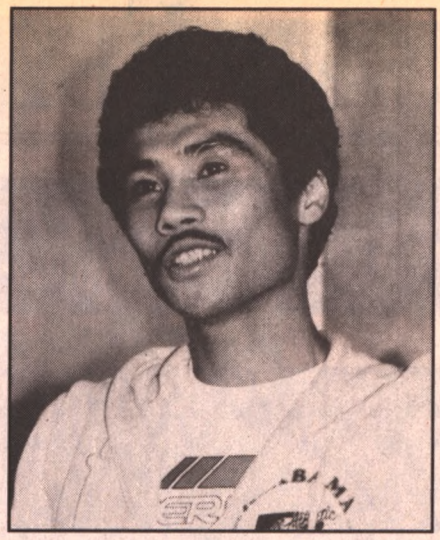
1 **Khaosai Galaxy:** Former kickboxer is obvious choice for top ... Thai southpaw fought almost exclusively at home, but notes less gained reputation as greatest fighter in division's 14-year hi ry ... Roman and Watanabe were both better boxers, but Galaxy's incre ble power and lengthy reign give him edge ... Won vacant WBA tit 1984 and reigned for seven years ... Made 19 defenses before vacat and retiring at age 32 ... Scored kayos in 17 of 20 world title fights Only lost once, in sixth pro bout ... Compiled overall mark of 49-1 Simply overpowered opponents, usually finishing with destructive hand ... Defeated host of world champions, including Israel Contre David Griman, Orono, Elly Pical, and Yong Kang Kim.

2 **Gilberto Roman:** Not cut from typical Mexican mold; resemb Salvador Sanchez a lot more than Pipino Cuevas ... Among m underrated Mexican champs ever ... Seemed en route to ban title when dropped down to 115 ... Reigned twice as WBC king and m total of 11 successful defenses ... Defended crown almost exclusively road ... Beat world champions such as Frank Cedeno, Santos Laz Baby Sugar Rojas, and Watanabe ... Not big puncher, but compi impressive kayo percentage by easily outclassing most foes ... Compl fighter who was brilliant defensively ... Weaknesses included tender s shaky chin, and lack of discipline between fights ... Was still active badly faded when, in 1990, died in car accident at age 28.

## A NOTCH BELOW

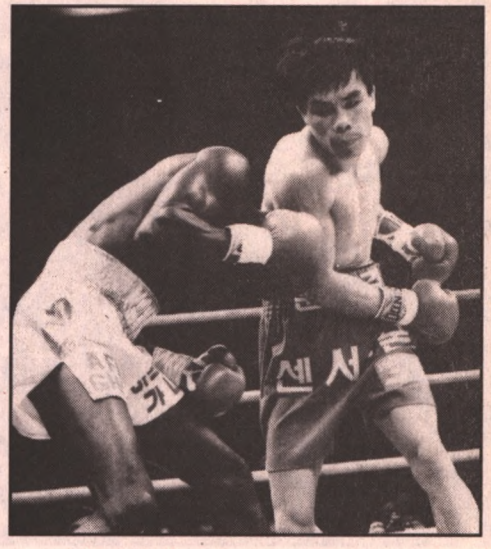
**Chul Ho Kim** won WBC title by upsetting Orono at age 1 Made five successful defenses, defeating, among others, Watanab and "Birdlegs" Jensen. Fought only once after losing title back t Orono and retired in 1983 at age 22 ... **Robert Quiroga** is onl American worthy of mention at this weight. Tough, spirited Texa made five successful defenses of IBF title, including points win ove Kid Akeem, which was arguably best title fight in division histor Hasn't fought since being dethroned by Julio Borboa in Januar 1993.

3 **Jiro Watanabe:** Counterpunching southpaw was both slick and strong; one of better pure boxers produced by Japan ... Didn't box until age 22 and tried for WBC title in just 11th pro bout, dropping decision to Chul Ho Kim ... Won WBA crown five fights later, outpointing Rafael Pedroza ... Made 11 successful defenses and reigned for five years ... Attempted to unify two-thirds of title by clashing with WBC king Payao Poontarat in 1984; won by decision, but was stripped of WBA title for taking fight, creating vacancy filled by Galaxy ... Topped Poontarat twice, and also defeated Shoji Oguma and Gustavo Ballas ... Engaged in only 28 bouts; lost to Roman in 1986 and never fought again ... Must be rated below Roman for two reasons: 1) lost head-to-head matchup and 2) won only one title fight outside of homeland.



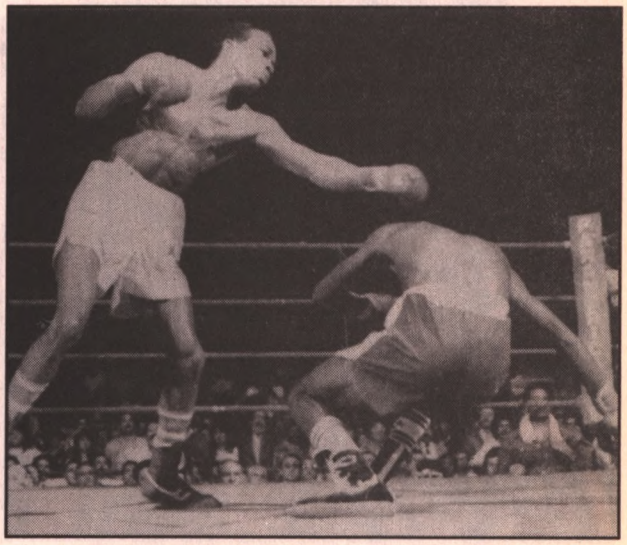
*Jiro Watanabe*

4 **Sung Kil Moon:** Despite impressive stats, strong but crude puncher is ranked distant fourth to Galaxy, Roman, and Watanabe ... Nicknamed "Korean Hands Of Stone" ... One of greatest amateurs in homeland's boxing history ... Unique in that he reigned as bantam champ (WBA) before winning WBC 115-pound crown ... At bantie, won crown from—and lost it back to—Kaokor Galaxy, Khaosai's twin brother ... Junior bantam reign, which ended last November, lasted almost four years and included nine successful defenses ... Remains active, though last few defenses suggest fighter on decline ... Risked title against consistently demanding opposition, including Roman, Nana Konadu, Greg Richardson, Armando Salazar, and Ernesto Ford.



*Sung Kil Moon powers past Nana Konadu*

5 **Rafael Orono:** Division's first champ, winning newly created WBC title in 1980 by outpointing future 122-pound titlist Seung Hoon Lee in 11th pro bout ... At 5'8", one of tallest 115-pounders ever ... Reigned as Venezuelan bantam champ before dropping down for title fight opportunity ... Mobile and quick-fisted, and fired straight, dangerous punches ... Reigned twice and made total of six successful defenses ... In addition to Lee, defeated Chul Ho Kim and Jovito Rengifo, and drew with "Birdlegs" Jensen ... Kayoed in attempt to dethrone Galaxy in 1985; lasted only five rounds ... Fought almost exclusively at home, but deserves credit for regaining title by defeating former conqueror Kim in South Korea ... Barely edges Kim for fifth spot.



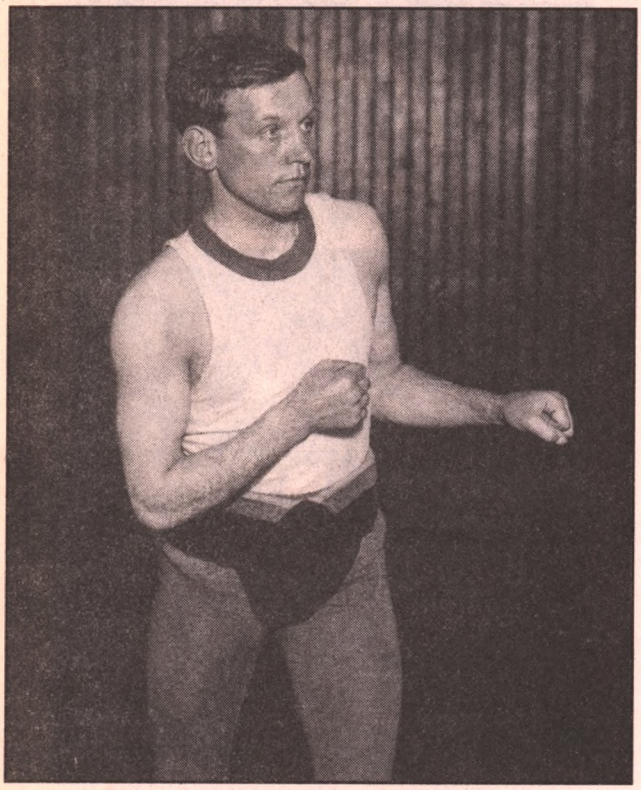
*Rafael Orono drops Pedro Romero*

## UNDERRATED & OVERRATED

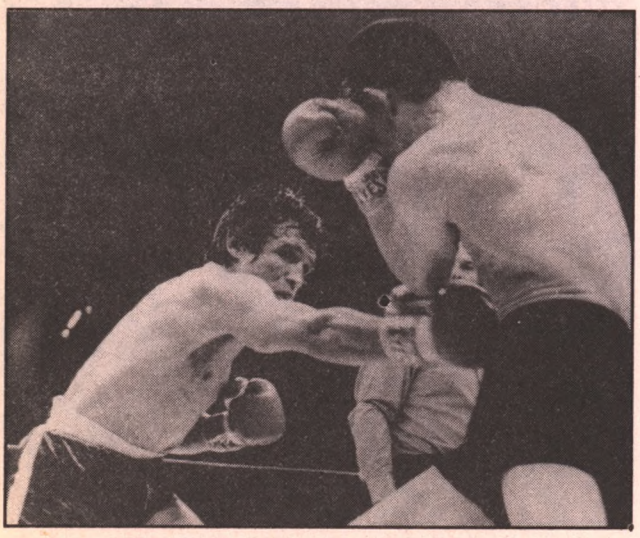
**Underrated:** Mexico's **Julio Borboa** came from nowhere to reign as IBF king. Boxer-puncher has made three successful defenses and seems to be improving. It remains rare, however, for a junior bantie to secure recognition ... **Overrated: Gustavo Ballas** was billed as "the Argentine Sugar Ray Leonard." Not quite. Was 53-0-1 after winning newly created WBA title in 1981, but reigned less than three months; was dethroned in first defense by Panama's Rafael Pedroza, who was 18-7-1. Failed in two subsequent tries at world title.

# FLYWEIGHTS

## 1. Jimmy Wilde 2. Miguel Canto 3. Pascual Perez 4. Frankie Genaro 5. Benny Lynch



*Jimmy Wilde*



*Miguel Canto fires at Shoji Oguma*

1 **Jimmy Wilde:** Welshman is not only consensus choice as g fly of all-time, but also considered top British fighter ev Remarkable physical specimen who stood 5'2½", scaled arou from 98 to 108 pounds, and regularly kayoed far bigger fo Tremendous bodypuncher and underrated boxer ... "Mighty Atom" unbeaten in first 98 bouts and won 141 of 145 recorded fights ... k mated to have engaged in 700 booth bouts ... Reigned for seven y but was slowed by World War I and fought only twice from 1921 to ... Depending on source, made anywhere from three to six succes defenses ... Won title by kayoing Joe Symonds ... Also defeated T Lee and Young Zulu Kid, as well as the bigger Joe Lynch and Mem Pal Moore.

2 **Miguel Canto:** Not all Mexicans are wade-in sluggers; the Canto was almost impossible to hit and must be rated, regardless weight, with greatest defensive fighters ever ... Ranked third THE RING on all-time list of Mexicans, behind Julio Cesar Chavez a Ruben Olivares ... Technically proficient counterpuncher who always prepared to go 15 rounds ... Never unified title, but held W crown for four years and made division-record 14 successful defense Amazingly, went distance in 17 of 18 world title fights, of which only came in Mexico ... Scoring points victories on road isn't easy, and ha convincingly defeat most challengers ... Bested most of top 112-pound of era, including Shoji Oguma, Betulio Gonzalez, Antonio Avelar, Susumu Hanagata.

## A NOTCH BELOW

**Fidel LaBarba** won gold medal at 1924 Olympics. Faced Jimmy McLarnin in three of first six bouts, and in 1925 took American crown from Genaro. Added world title in 1927, then retired and enrolled at Stanford University. Returned at higher weight and defeated, among others, Kid Chocolate, Petey Sarron, and Tommy Paul ... Thailand's **Sot Chitalada** enjoyed two solid reigns as WBC champ, making combined 10 successful defenses ... Tall (5'6") Thai **Pone Kingpetch** won world title three times. Dropping down from bantam, he twice defeated Perez and also topped Fighting Harada.

3 **Pascual Perez:** Regarded as greatest fighter in history of Argentina ... Won gold medal at 1948 Olympics ... Depending on source, stood anywhere from 4'10½" to 5' ... Went 49-0-1 in first 50 bouts, and in 1954 won world title at relatively advanced age of 28 ... First dominant and long-reigning fly champ since Wilde ... Kept crown 5½ years and made nine successful defenses, defeating, among others, Yoshio Shirai, Leo Espinosa, Dai Dower, and Dommy Ursua ... Went 21-1 in non-title bouts during reign ... Defended often on road, risking crown in Montevideo, Caracas, Manila, Tokyo, Osaka, Bangkok, and Los Angeles ... Squat and powerful, but also extremely mobile; known for legs as much as power or infighting ability.

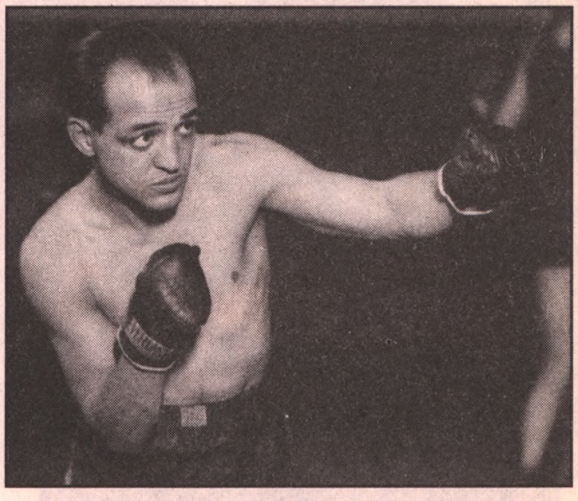
4 **Frankie Genaro:** Fought during strongest stretch in division history ... New Yorker won gold medal at 1920 Olympics and was fighting in 15-rounders by seventh pro bout ... Stood 5'2½" and boxed way to most victories ... In 1923, outpointed Pancho Villa to win American title, which at time was almost as presigious as world crown ... Victory grew in significance; three months after losing to Genaro, Villa won world title by stopping Wilde ... Lost title in first defense to Fidel LaBarba, but captured NBA crown in 1928 and made six successful defenses, including 1930 draw vs. New York State world champ Midget Wolgast ... Defeated almost all of era's fly and bantam stars, including Charlie Phil Rosenberg, Bud Taylor, Memphis Pal Moore, Kid Williams, Bushy Graham, Frenchy Belanger, Spider Pladner, and Valentin Angelmann.

5 **Benny Lynch:** Greatest fighter ever produced by Scotland ... Tall for weight (5'5") and possessed masterful skills, as well as destructive power ... "As a fighter he had no weaknesses," said British historian Ron Olver. "In his prime he was perfect" ... Was also extremely charismatic ... Won British, NBA, and IBU titles in 1935, flooring Jackie Brown eight times in two rounds ... Added world crown in 1937, outpointing Small Montana in furious brawl ... Followed with kayo defense vs. England's Peter Kane, who climbed through ropes with mark of 46-0 ... Made combined four successful defenses ... Gave up title on scale in 1938, weighing 6½ pounds over limit for defense against Jackie Jurich ... Suffered from alcoholism; career was over by age 25, and died penniless at 33.

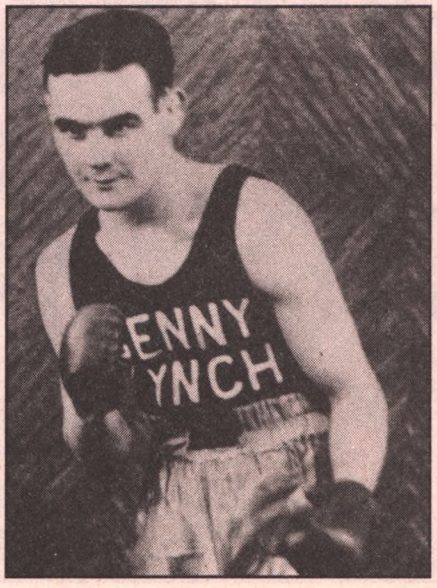
## UNDERRATED & OVERRATED

**Underrated:** Italy's squat, ceaselessly aggressive **Salvatore Burruni**, who reigned in mid-'60s, was last unified 112-pound titlist. Went unbeaten from 1960 to 1965. Dethroned Pone Kingpetch, but made only one successful defense, losing at age 33 to Walter McGowan ... **Overrated: Pancho Villa**, first world champ from Philippines, dethroned Wilde and is rated in top five by almost all historians. Certainly wasn't better than Genaro, and also lost to Abe Goldstein and Bobby Wolgast. Could have accomplished more; died of blood poisoning while still champ (at age 23).

*Pascual Perez moves in vs. Pone Kingpetch*



*Frankie Genaro*

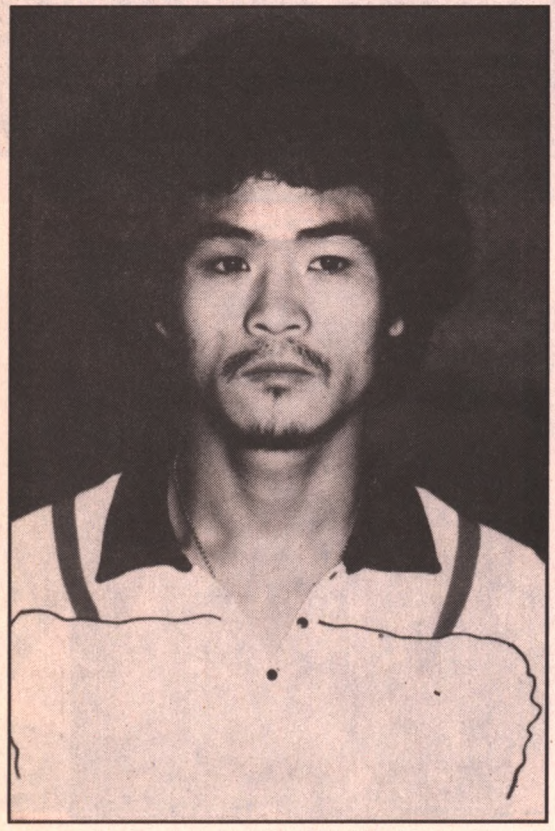



*Benny Lynch*

# JUNIOR FLYWEIGHTS

**1. Michael Carbajal 2. Jung Koo Chang 3. Yoko Gushiken**
**4. Myung Woo Yuh 5. Hilario Zapata**

*Michael Carbajal overwhelms Tony DeLuca*



*Jung Koo Chang*

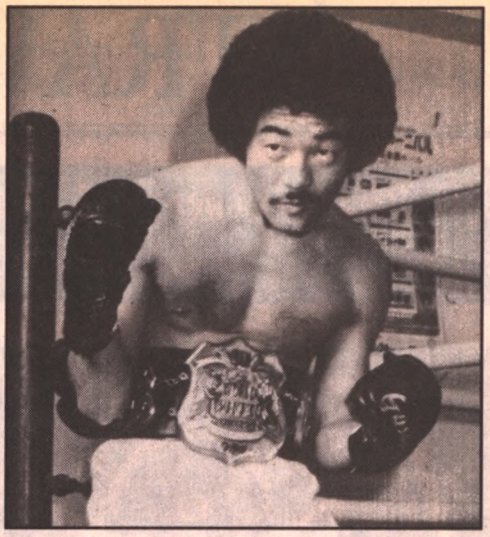
1 **Michael Carbajal:** Hasn't reigned as long as Chang or made many defenses as Yuh, but deserves top spot because of magnitude of victories and fact that in 19-year history of division, is first 1 pound champ to unify at least part of title ... Relatively tall (5'5½"), brawls more than boxes; is especially effective when banging to body. Remains unbeaten and is rated in everyone's pound-for-pound top 10. Has reigned as IBF champ since 1990, and added WBC title by rising from two knockdowns to crush Chiquita Gonzalez in 1993 ... Showdown vs. Gonzalez was Fight of Year, and "Little Hands Of Stone" was selected by THE RING as Fighter of Year ... As we went to press, was scheduled to meet Gonzalez in rematch on February 19 ... Has made nine successful defenses against consistently tough opposition.

2 **Jung Koo Chang:** "Korean Hawk" was tireless 5'3½" pressure fighter who overwhelmed opponents with aggressiveness and superior strength ... Won WBC title at age 20, kayoing Zapata, who had previously outpointed him ... Reigned for 6½ years and made 15 successful defenses before being dethroned by Chiquita Gonzalez ... Failed in two subsequent tries at fly title ... Defeated a slew of world champions including Hideyuki Ohashi, German Torres, Sot Chitalada, and Katsuo Tokashiki ... Rated ahead of Gushiken and Yuh based largely on quality of opposition; neither of aforementioned titlists beat anyone as good as Zapata or Chitalada ... Nineteen of 20 world title fights came in home land, but at this weight that's not unusual.

## A NOTCH BELOW

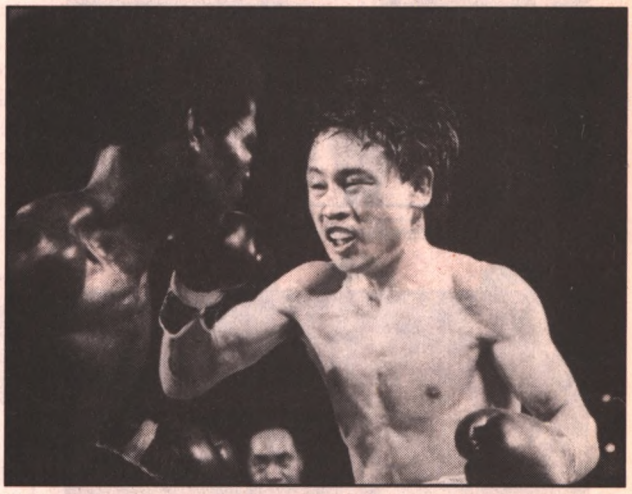
Mexican switch-hitter **Chiquita Gonzalez** enjoyed two reigns as WBC champ and made total of nine successful defenses. Would undoubtedly have landed in top five had he managed to defeat (or duck, for that matter) Carbajal. In early-'90s was rated as hardest hitter, pound for pound, in boxing, which, for junior fly, is quite a compliment ... In 1975, Venezuela's **Luis "Lumumba" Estaba** won vacant WBC title at considerably advanced age of 34. Overcame stigma of being crowned based on victory over fighter making pro debut (Paraguay's Rafael Lovera). Made 11 successful defenses and defeated, among others, Franco Udella, Rafael Pedroza, and Netrnoi Vorasingh.

3 **Yoko Gushiken:** First junior fly to receive consideration when experts compiled pound-for-pound top 10s in late-'70s ... Japanese southpaw was reasonably talented boxer and exceptional puncher, especially with left hand ... In 1976, won WBA title in ninth pro bout ... Reigned 4½ years and made 13 successful defenses before losing to Pedro Flores ... Never fought again, retiring after only 24 bouts at age 26 ... Defeated several world champs, but no outstanding fighters, hence ranked below Carbajal and Chang ... Conquered world titlists Juan Guzman, Jaime Rios, Alfonso Lopez, Rafael Pedroza, and Flores ... Odd sidebar: Was alleged after reign that some of title fight challengers had been drugged or food-poisoned; nothing was ever proved.



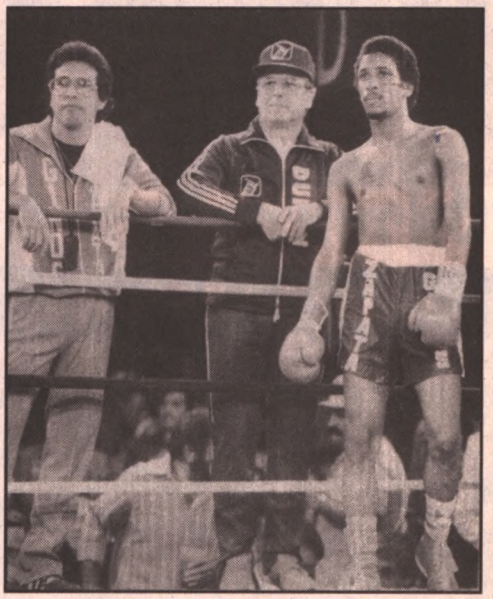
*Yoko Gushiken*

4 **Myung Woo Yuh:** Korean was not as strong or dangerous as countryman Chang, but boxed with much more finesse ... Nonetheless, was primarily a pressure fighter ... Made remarkable transformation: Won first 13 bouts on points, then 12 of next 18 (all title fights) by KO ... Reigned twice as WBA champ ... First won crown in 1985, decisioning Joey Olivo ... Made division-record 17 successful defenses—all in South Korea—before being dethroned by Hiroki Ioka ... First reign lasted six years ... Regained title in 1992 and made one defense before retiring ... Defeated unimpressive list of challengers, of which best were Rodolfo Blanco, Leo Gamez, Willie Salazar, and Mario DeMarco ... Hurt standing by choosing to pass on unification bout vs. Carbajal in '93.



*Myung Woo Yuh outmuscles Benedicto Murillo*

5 **Hilario Zapata:** Interestingly, only member of top five to win a title in another division; reigned as WBA fly champ in mid-'80s ... In all, engaged in 23 world title fights ... Panamanian southpaw was tall (5'6½") and angular, and boxed in stylish manner similar to countryman Eusebio Pedroza ... Was particularly dominant with jab ... Major weakness was shaky chin ... Won WBC title in 12th pro bout ... Reigned for three years over course of two reigns and made combined 10 successful defenses ... Defeated decent list of foes, including world champs Chang, Freddy Castillo, Shigeo Nakajima, Tadashi Tomori, Joey Olivo, German Torres, and Netrnoi Vorasingh ... Unlike higher rated 108-pounders, regularly risked crown on road.



*Hilario Zapata*

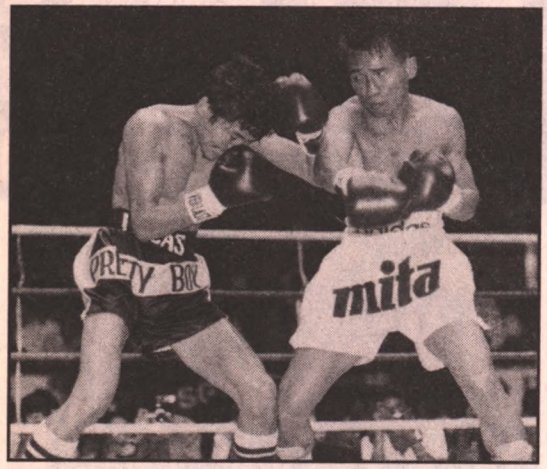
## UNDERRATED & OVERRATED

**Underrated: Dodie Boy Penalosa** was unbeaten when he won vacant IBF title in 1983. Filipino made three successful defenses before relinquishing crown. Also briefly held fly title ... **Overrated:** Like Penalosa, **Muangchai Kittikasem** held both 108- and 112-pound crowns. Thai impressed with powerpunching, but chin repeatedly failed him.

# STRAWWEIGHTS

## 1. Ricardo Lopez 2. Phalan Lukmingkwan 3. Bong Jun Kim 4. Chana Porpaoin 5. Hiroki Ioka

*Ricardo Lopez*




*Phalan Lukmingkwan punches past Pretty Boy Lucas*

**1 Ricardo Lopez:** Is first champ in seven-year history of divisi... gain even a modicum of respect; in fact, is regarded as one o... best fighters in game ... Boxer-puncher who seems to hav... weaknesses ... Win over WBC-IBF junior fly king Michael Carbaj... needed to make him a star outside native Mexico ... Won WBC tit... 1990, kayoing Hideyuki Ohashi ... Has made nine successful defe... (and counting) ... Nicknamed "Finito" (The Finisher) ... Has never ... is 35-0 (26) as pro, and went 40-0 as amateur.

**2 Phalan Lukmingkwan:** Arguably best of rest; after Lopez, no... has distinguished himself ... Thai southpaw lost pro debu... Porpaoin ... Aggressive, but not a tremendous hitter; has sc... kayos in only three of nine title fights ... Won IBF crown in 199... made seven successful defenses ... Quality challengers included P... Boy Lucas, Abdi Pohan, and Andy Tabanas ... Hurt standing by k... title to mediocre Filipino Manny Melchor.

**3 Bong Jun Kim:** Diminutive South Korean won vacant WBA titl... second try, kayoing Agustin Garcia in 1989 ... Marched to ti... winging overhand punches throughout bouts ... Made five succes... defenses, including pair of wins over slick Panamanian southpaw Sil... Barcenas ... In '91, lost title to Hi Yong Choi via disputed decision.

**4 Chana Porpaoin:** Reigning WBA king won crown in Febr... 1993, upsetting powerpuncher Hideyuki Ohashi, and has made ... successful defenses ... Most impressive win was points verdict ... previously unbeaten Panamanian Carlos Murillo ... Mobile boxer-p... er who adapts to foe's style ... Stands at 30-0 (13), and, assuming ... continues, should move past Lukmingkwan and Kim into second spot.

**5 Hiroki Ioka:** Lanky Japanese won newly created WBC titl... October 1987, outpointing Mai Thornburifarm, and made two ... cessful defenses before being dethroned by Napa Kiatwanch... title fight victim of Chiquita Gonzalez) ... Added WBA junior fly cr... in '91, shocking long-reigning Myung Woo Yuh ... At freakish 5'7"... with 68-inch reach, possesses advantages over every opponen... Predictably, a boxer who prefers to stay outside.

## A NOTCH BELOW

Venezuela's **Leo Gamez** has always been a junior fly, but dropped down in '88 and dethroned WBA king Kim. Made one defense before vacating and moving up ... Big puncher currently reigns as WBA 108-pound champ ... At 20, reigning IBF titlist **Ratanapol Sow Vorapin** is boxing's youngest world champ. A legitimate puncher, the southpaw has made three successful defenses, including kayo of highly touted Ala Villamor.

## UNDERRATED & OVERRATED

**Underrated:** Japan's elongated **Hideyuki Ohashi** is one-pun... hitter in division of boxers and pressure fighters. Reigned separate... as WBC and WBA champ before being dethroned by Lopez a... Porpaoin, respectively ... **Overrated:** Filipino southpaw A... **Villamor** was supposed to be next 105-pound star. Was 24-0-1 (2... when kayoed by Ratanapol Sow Vorapin in '93 try for IBF title.

# Tszyu

*(Continued from page 37)*

strength of schedule argument: dominating 10-round decisions over former world champions Livingstone Bramble and Juan LaPorte; a one-round blowout of perennial contender Sammy Fuentes; and now a win over Lopez.

***

The story begins in Serov, an industrial city of about 125,000 located in the Eural Mountains region. Siberia is relatively close, to the west, Moscow a two-day train ride to the east. Tszyu traces his heritage on his father's side to Korea, and the fighter's features are evidence.

His father, Boris, has worked as an ice fisherman and in a steel factory. It's a living, what passes for a middle-class existence for his wife and their son and daughter.

At an early age Tszyu was introduced to the local recreation center, which had a boxing program.

"My father took me to the gym when I was nine," he recalled. "I enjoyed it, liked it right away. Boxing is a difficult game and I enjoyed [the challenge]."

His progress was steady and continued through his time in the Soviet Army.

It was at the 1989 World Championships in Moscow that Tszyu was first noticed by Australian trainer Johnny Lewis.

"I've just seen potentially the best fighter in the world," Lewis gushed to Bill Mordey in Sydney. Mordey, a sportswriter-turned-horseman and boxing promoter, recalled his response: Yeah, right.

"In one ear and out the other," said Mordey, who had a hand in the career of triple-crown champion Jeff Fenech. "You're always hearing things like that; it so rarely works out."

Two years later the World Championships were held in Sydney. Lewis rang up Mordey again.

"Remember the kid I told you about two years ago? Well, he's fighting tonight ... "

Mordey hadn't the foggiest, but he went to see for himself and quickly realized Lewis' rave reviews were not without merit.

The timing was perfect. The collapse of the Soviet Union meant Tszyu was free to leave. And after he won the gold in Sydney, he was ready to trade in his 269-3 amateur record for a paycheck and a pro career. He would have been the favorite at 139 pounds at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics, but he wanted to wait no longer.

"I just felt like it was time for the next step," he said.

In addition to Mordey's bid, Tszyu entertained offers from Korea, Europe, and the United States.

"Before we seriously talked contract, the value or the duration," said Mordey, "he said he wanted two things: a microwave and a double bed. I assured him he could have both."

Mordey also appealed to Tszyu's sense of family. While courting him, Mordey took Tszyu to a favorite restaurant and listened as he talked about not being appreciated back in Serov. Mordey, looking for an edge, asked friends at the restaurant to drop by the table and say something nice.

"They had no idea who he was, but they were friendly and made him feel welcome," Mordey said. "And why not? He's one of the nicest boys you'll ever meet. Family is very important to him. He respects his elders."

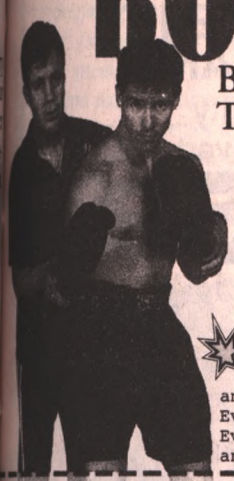
Mordey remembered an incident during which the teenage son of a friend was giving Dad "a verbal." Tszyu yanked the disrespectful son aside and told him, in essence, to shut his yap.

*(Continued on page 76)*


YOU CAN LEARN TO

BOX!

With Kenny Weldon America's #1 Boxing Teacher and Trainer



Buy The Newest Videotape Training Series On Boxing!

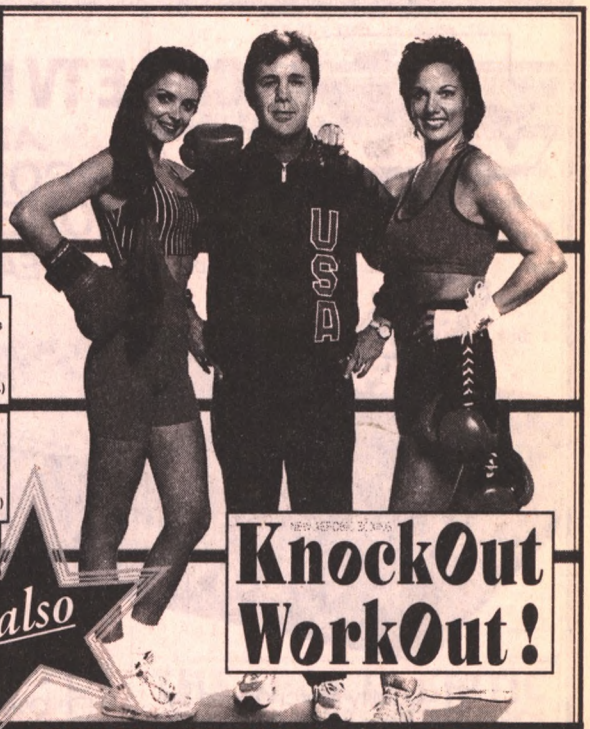
TAPE #1 BASIC FUNDEMENTALS
Wrapping Hands, Stance, Footwork, Left Jab, Right Cross, Left Hook, Upper Cuts, Cut-Off Punches
$24.95 (59 MIN.)

TAPE #2 ROADWORK/FLOORWORK
Rhythm and Coordination Exercises, How To Hit Heavy Bags, How To Hit Double End Bags, How To Jump Rope, Range and Distance
$24.95 (57 MIN.)

TAPE #3 DEFFENSIVE MANEUVERS
Reaction and Counter Punching, Exercise Program, Defensive Moves, Warm Up Workout
$24.95 (55 MIN.)

TAPE #4 ADVANCED TECHNIQUES
Fighting On The Ropes, How To Pivot & Work The Corners, Bout Strategies & Influencing Officials, How And When To Turn Pro, Management & Contracts
$24.95(57 MIN.)

For five years Kenny served as balance and technique teacher for Lou Duva's Main Events Stable—working with Evander Holyfield, Mike McCallum and Vinny Pazienza (1984-1988)




also

KnockOut WorkOut!

COMPLETE VIDEOTAPE TRAINING SERIES

TAPE 1 - BASICS
ROUND 1: 4 -Phase Exercises
ROUND 2: Strength Exercises
ROUND 3: Stance & Rhythm
ROUND 4: Line Exercises
ROUND 5: Jumps & Step-Ups
approx. 60 min. $19.95

TAPE 2 - INTERMEDIATE
ROUND 6: Heavy Bag
ROUND 7: Double End Bag
ROUND 8: Jump Rope
ROUND 9: Speed Bag
ROUND 10: Hand Pads
approx. 60 min. $19.95

NAME _____ PH.# _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

YOU CAN LEARN TO BOX ○ TAPE 1 ○ TAPE 2 ○ TAPE 3 ○ TAPE 4 ○ SET OF FOUR TAPES $89.95

KNOCKOUT WORKOUT ○ TAPE 1 ○ TAPE 2 $19.95 ea. ○ SET OF TWO TAPES $34.95

METHOD OF PAYMENT ☐ CHECK ☐ MONEY ORDER ☐ VISA ☐ M.C.

CARD# _____ EXP.# _____

SIGNATURE _____

SEND $3 PER TAPE ( $6 PER TAPE OUTSIDE THE U.S. ) FOR SHIPPING AND HANDLING TO: BOXEROBICS, P.O. BOX 6309 PASADENA, TEXAS 77506. TX. RESIDENCE ADD 8.25% SALES TAX. AVAILABLE IN V.H.S. ONLY. ALLOW 2-3 WEEKS DELIVERY. ORDER BY PHONE: (713) 946-9531

COMPUTER
BOXING
IBM • APPLE II • C-64

**TKO PRO BOXING**
Includes over 1500 boxers (active & retired) all divisions • Ability to fight - retired fighters at different stages of their careers • compiles records & rank contenders • Fight boxers across eras • Select between round strategy or let computer manage boxers • Pre-fight condition option • Between round condition report & three judge scoring • Cuts, TKO's, KO's & color commentary during rounds

ORDER TODAY!
Mail check or money order for **$39.95**.
You may call in and order with VISA or Master Card.
Please add $3.00 for shipping and handling.
For more information, call or write for a free brochure.
**1-800-477-7032**

©LANCE HAFFNER GAMES
P.O. BOX 100594 • NASHVILLE, TN 37224

# Tszyu

*(Continued from page 75)*

Tszyu turned pro two years ago on the undercard of the Azumah Nelson-Fenech rematch in Sydney. On the way to the ring, Lewis preached the importance of getting a good start and winning the first round. Tszyu punched out Darrell Hills in less than a minute.

Back in the dressing room, Tszyu wondered about something. "Coach, why did you say I must win in the first round?"

No misunderstandings today, though. Tszyu and Natasha regularly take language lessons, and his English is getting quite good. One interesting result is that the Russian now speaks English with an Australian accent.

Nine of his first 10 fights were in Australia. Then he took time off to rest an injured ankle and marry his childhood sweetheart. Along the way he has added a Rottweiler puppy, Vik (for Viking), and a new house. He plans on becoming a naturalized citizen of Australia.

"He has quite a following; he's a star," said Mordey. "But in Sydney he's playing to the converted. He needs the exposure in America."

That will undoubtedly come. When Mordey looks into Tszyu's future, all he sees are good things. By the time his fighter is ready for a world title shot, in fact, he envisions a live gate of 100,000 in Red Square.

Not even the Sugar Rays could have pulled that off. ■

***David Alfonso is the long-time boxing writer for the Tampa Tribune.***

# What If . . .

*(Continued from page 28)*

## THE FIGHT

Dempsey-Wills is truly an event. The Polo Grounds vibrates with the noise from the huge crowd. Cheers drown the jeers as Wills enters the ring, but a roar shatters the hot, stagnant air when the heavyweight king climbs through the ropes. After the introductions, the fighters receive their instructions without delay. The most eagerly anticipated fight of Dempsey's reign is about to begin.

**Round 1**: As expected, Dempsey runs across the ring, attacking Wills almost before the

JP VIDEO
**CABLE TV DESCRAMBLERS / CONVERTERS**
*AT UNBELIEVABLE PRICES*
JERROLD • OAK • HAMLIN • ZENITH
PIONEER • SCIENTIFIC ATLANTA
*READY TO SHIP* – One Year Warranty
Converters as low
**$59.00**

❑ Quality Merchandise by name brand manufacturers
❑ 30 Day Money Back Guarantee.
❑ 1 Full Year New Product Warrantee
❑ Technical Support to answer any of your questions

❑ C.O.D. Shipping
❑ Overnight Shipping
❑ Quantity Discounts - Dealer inquiries welcome

WHY RENT?

*Call* **1(800)950-9145**

**DISCLAIMER NOTICE:** The purchase of CATV products does not authorize their use on any cable TV system. Purchaser is obligated to notify their local cable company and obtain authorization prior to installation. We do not advocate theft of service and assume no responsibility for claims arising from the use of products sold.

**1470 OLD COUNTRY ROAD, SUITE 315-KO PLAINVIEW, NY 11803 NO NY SALES**

challenger leaves his corner. Bulling the larger man into the ropes, Dempsey flails at Wills' body. Suddenly, Wills falls from a flagrant low blow. Confusion reigns outside the ring, and many of the spectators boo lustily, thinking they've just witnessed the shortest heavyweight championship fight in history. However, Reilly pushes Dempsey away and Wills gets to his feet. Reilly acknowledges that the blow was low but doesn't bother to formally warn Dempsey about hitting below the belt. Dempsey again swarms in, but this time Wills neatly ties him up. A left hook to the head gives Dempsey pause, and the round flows to an active but reasonable pace. In the final seconds Wills lands several good shots, and Dempsey appears somewhat frustrated at his inability to work his way inside.

**Round 2:** Wills uses his long jab in an attempt to keep Dempsey off him. Mid-round, however, a relentless Dempsey fights his way inside, and after an exchange of right hands, Wills backs out with a cut over his left eye. Whether the result of a butt or punch, the blood seems to lift Dempsey to an even higher energy level, and he rains punches to both the head and body. Another overhand right drops The Brown Panther for a five-count, and Dempsey fans are ecstatic over what they think is the beginning of the end. Backpedaling frantically, then moving side to side, Wills evades Dempsey's uncontrolled rushes. With 20 seconds left, Wills fires a four-punch volley that makes Dempsey take his first backward step.

**Rounds 3-5:** Wills regroups in his corner before the start of the third. His ability to survive the knockdown gives new confidence to the challenger. Dempsey, who expended so much energy in attempting to end the bout in the second, seems somewhat concerned. For the next three rounds, the fight settles into a predictable, albeit exciting, pattern. Dempsey throws three punches to every one delivered by Wills. However, Wills is more accurate, and he catches many of Dempsey's punches with his gloves or on his arms and shoulders. In the fifth, Wills stuns Dempsey with a counter right, and an uppercut buckles Dempsey's knees. When the bell sounds, there is noticeable swelling under Dempsey's right eye.

**Round 6:** In what is perhaps the most electrifying round of the fight, the heavyweights go toe to toe from bell to bell. Both fighters eschew the jab and any pretense of defense, trading powerpunches to both the head and body. The crowd rises to its feet when a tremendous left hook drives Dempsey to the floor. For a fleeting moment it appears the champion won't beat the count, but as Reilly tolls nine, Dempsey leaps to his feet and glares at the audacious Wills. The bell sounds only seconds later.

**Rounds 7-10:** Just as the second-round knockdown seemed to inspire Wills, Dempsey's meeting with the canvas has a profound effect. He suddenly switches styles; instead of wading in and looking for the big punch, he begins to employ his excellent hand speed. An underrated boxer, he moves more and more and gets hit less and less while scoring frequently. Wills seems confused in the seventh and eighth, as if suspecting Dempsey of trying to lull him into making a foolish move. Consequently, Wills waits to counter and does little offensively. He picks up the pace in the ninth and 10th and matches Dempsey move for move in a chess match.

**Rounds 11-14:** More of the same from both fighters until the 14th. Overanxious and perhaps starting to feel his age, Wills tries to end it. Loading up on every punch, he mounts a furious assault that leaves Dempsey battered and bloodied but standing. Then, with only seconds remaining, Dempsey catches Wills coming in and drops him with a straight right over the challenger's lazy jab. Wills rises at the bell but sags on his stool between rounds.

**Round 15:** Touching gloves, the fighters show the effects of 14 hard rounds. Wills' cut was reopened in the 12th and has bled since. His left eye is nearly closed. Dempsey's right eye is also swollen, and blood trickles down his right cheek from a cut high on his forehead. The round is somewhat of an anticlimax. For the first time, both heavyweights clinch as often as they punch. Fittingly, a final flurry by Dempsey spurs Wills into action, and they trade until the bell ending an epic battle.

## THE DECISION

The totals come as no surprise, with judges Lytton and Bernstein both scoring 145-142. Referee Reilly raises eyebrows, however, by handing in a fairly lopsided card of 147-140. The winner by unanimous decision and *still* heavyweight champion is Jack Dempsey.

## THE AFTERMATH

The press lauds the efforts of both fighters; some of the more bombastic reporters proclaim the bout the greatest ever. Whatever the case, Dempsey-Wills fails to change boxing history. Dempsey would go on to fight the man who would prove to be his nemesis, Gene Tunney. Wills would drift back into semi-obscurity, gratified by having acquitted himself in such a fine fashion, but silently bitter at not having received a title shot closer to his prime.

Had Dempsey-Wills actually taken place, it would have clarified several issues. First, it would have given a better picture of just how good black heavyweights like Wills, Jeannette, McVey, and Langford really were. Second, a win over Wills would have cemented Dempsey's already firm place in boxing's pantheon.

While no one can be certain how a match between Dempsey and Wills would have turned out, be rest assured it would have been a classic. ■


When you can't breathe, nothing else matters

AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION.
1-800-LUNG-USA

**OUT THERE IS A WORLD CHAMP**
• Pro • Service Men • Amateur
• Unattached • Will Relocate • Jobs Waiting
**I have a 3000 sq. ft. gym**
**send $2.00 for brochures**
**BOXING GYM...AL VIALARDI**
19 N.W. 5th Street, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla

**Steven F. Pugliese, Esq.**
Available for independent · legal consultations for boxers.
Hourly rates only
Phone (212) 514-5390 Fax (212) 344-9006

**The Defendants**
A Fighter's Story
164 Pages/Paper Back
***Makes a Great Gift!***
Send $6.95 Plus $1.90 Shipping Handling To:
John Chalkias Books
413 B - 19th St. Suite 164,
Lynden, WA 98264

**Boxing for Boxers Associates**

***New and Revolutionary!*** Receive you complete punch-by-punch statistic overview with detailed scientific data and enlightening information of the Riddick Bowe vs. Evander Holyfield - 2nd Bout, November 6, 1993, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Send a $25.00 check or money order with a return address payable to:

**Boxing for Boxers Associates**
P.O. Box 438422
Chicago, IL 60643

We name, count, give percentages and analyze the punches that landed. We also interpret and analyze boxing video tapes for your individual personal needs.
(tapes, workshops, and seminars T.B.A. write or call 312-995-0261)

**THE SPORTS CRITIC**
**OPINIONS ON SPORTS HOTTEST TOPICS**
**Call 1-900-226-2757**
$2.95 per min. / 4 min. call / Must be 18 to call
FOR ENTERTAINMENT PURPOSES ONLY
Henderson, NV
702-226-4651 • FAX # 702-896-3590
*A NEW ENTERTAINING SPORT SHOW EVERY FRIDAY*

How To Build
**Awesome Knockout Power**
**A new course developrd by experts in the Martial Arts, Boxing and Sports Medicine.**

**"DRAMATIC RESULTS GUARANTEED"**
**Send $10.00 to: E.L. Gabriel**
P.O. BOX 291942
Hollywood, CA. 90027

# IRON WARRIOR

**HEAVY PUNCHING BAGS**

**Face it! Heavy rag-stuffed pro-size bags mandate *survival of the fittest.* These blood red bags are a massive 18" x 48" and tip the scales well over 100 lbs. at full plumpness. With 2" steel D-rings, $^{3}/_{16}$" chain and 2" webbing, you can restrain a raging beast. The shell of this heavy duty marine grade vinyl will hold the spoils of war for most any barbarian. Shipped empty to *save you half price* by stuffing with your own rags and rummage sale clothes, not to mention the huge savings on shipping costs. Send only $69 + $6 for shipping to:**

IRON WARRIOR
Route 2, Box 336
Mulberry, AR 72947



CLETO REYES
PROFESIONAL
HENCHO EN MEXICO
M.R. ®

The *FINEST* in Boxing Equipment!

$115.00 Pair
TRAINING GLOVES (E-312 12oz)

**T-SHIRTS Only $15.00**

KIDNEY and FOUL PROOF CUP (E-394 SM) ..... $125
HEADGEAR W/ CHEEK PROTECTOR (E-380 SM) $125
*PRO GLOVES, BAG GLOVES, SHOES, SPEED & DOUBLE-END BAG'S AND MORE!*

*CALL FOR YOUR ORDER TODAY!* **1-818-249-2444** (9-5 P.C.T.)
*WE ACCEPT* - VISA • M/C • M.O. • C.C. • SORRY NO C.O.D.'S
CREDIT CARD ORDERS MUST INCLUDE CC#, EXP. DATE & SIG.

*OR WRITE:* **Seconds Out!** ENTERPRISES
2820 HONOLULU AVE., SUITE 338, DEPT. R
VERDUGO CITY, CA 91046-4601
*ORDERS MUST INCLUDE:* NAME, ADDRESS, DAY PH. #. PLEASE SPECIFY QTY., MODEL #, TOTAL AMT. ENCLOSED (INCLUDE S&H)

Seconds Out! ENTERPRISES

CA RES ADD 8.25% SALES TAX • FOREIGN ORDERS ADD 15% TO PRICE AND S&H
ALL ORDERS SENT REGULAR GROUND • NEXT DAY / 2ND DAY AIR AVAILABLE
**SEND $3 FOR PRICE LIST & CATALOG**
**(WILL BE APPLIED TO 1ST ORDER!)**
SHIPPING & HANDLING CHARGES BASED ON TOTAL PURCHASE PRICE


# Records

*(Continued from page 24)*

of Canizales and Hill.

Consider the five 175-pounders Hill has defended against since regaining the WBA belt with a 12-round decision over Frank Tate in September 1992: Adolpho Washington, Fabrice Tiozzo, Sergio Merani, Saul Montana, and Guy Waters. Not one of them was within sniffing range of THE RING Top 10, and not one gave Hill, or more importantly the fans, a competitive fight. Canizales' challengers have been equally inadequate *(see sidebar)*.

Just as significant is who Hill and Canizales *haven't* fought. True, the light heavyweight division hasn't exactly been overflowing with talent over the past decade. But how about Prince Charles Williams, Jeff Harding, Dennis Andries, Leeonzer Barber, and Mike McCallum? Had Hill beaten any of them, he would have unified portions of the title and/or added considerable prestige to his reigns.

Hill has also benefited from a large following in his home state of North Dakota. Though enthusiasm and the size of the crowds have slipped of late, all that was needed to ensure a profitable promotion during his first title run was a lukewarm body in the opposite corner.

Generally, the lighter weight divisions have a bigger population of top-notch fighters. Nevertheless, a startling number of Canizales' title fight opponents have been uninspiring. Blatantly unsuitable adversaries such as Jimmy Navarro, Ray Minus, and Eddie Rangel have had shots at Canizales, while attractive matches against the likes of Kaokor Galaxy, Raul Perez, Eddie Cook, and Luisito Espinosa never materialized.

Canizales and Hill are not the only reigning titlists trying to capitalize on a lengthy but jaded chain of defenses. Every time IBF 154-pound champion Gianfranco Rosi puts the title on the line, we have to hear about how he's setting a

# FOSTER vs. HILL

The following lists document the tremendous disparity in the caliber of challengers Hill and Foster (and on the opposite page, Canizales and Ortiz) have fought. The yardstick used is the challengers' positions in THE RING ratings at the time of their tries at the title. An asterisk indicates the challenger was not rated. It should be noted that beginning with the January 1993 issue of THE RING, we included the WBA, WBC, and IBF titlists among the top 10, instead of listing them separately, as was the custom in the past.

## FOSTER

| | Date | Opponent & Result | Rating |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | 1/23/69 | Frankie DePaula (KO 1) | * |
| 2. | 5/24/69 | Andy Kendall (KO 4) | 4 |
| 3. | 4/4/70 | Roger Rouse (KO 4) | * |
| 4. | 6/27/70 | Mark Tessman (KO 10) | 3 |
| 5. | 3/2/71 | Hal Carroll (KO 4) | 4 |
| 6. | 4/24/71 | Ray Anderson (W 15) | * |
| 7. | 10/29/71 | Tommy Hicks (KO 8) | * |
| 8. | 12/16/71 | Brian Kelly (KO 3) | 7 |
| 9. | 4/7/72 | Vincente Rondon (KO 2) | 1 |
| 10. | 6/27/72 | Mike Quarry (KO 4) | 3 |
| 11. | 9/26/72 | Chris Finnegan (KO 14) | 4 |
| 12. | 8/21/73 | Pierre Fourie (W 15) | 1 |
| 13. | 12/1/73 | Pierre Fourie (W 15) | 4 |
| 14. | 7/17/74 | Jorge Ahumada (D 15) | 1 |
| 15. | | | |

## HILL

| Date | Opponent & Result | Rating |
|---|---|---|
| 11/21/87 | Rufino Angulo (W 12) | * |
| 4/3/88 | Jean Emebe (KO 11) | * |
| 6/6/88 | Ramzi Hassan (W 12) | 10 |
| 11/11/88 | Willie Featherstone (KO 10) | * |
| 3/4/89 | Bobby Czyz (W 12) | 7 |
| 5/27/89 | Joe Lasisi (KO 7) | 6 |
| 10/24/89 | James Kinchen (KO 1) | * |
| 2/25/90 | David Vedder (W 12) | * |
| 7/7/90 | Tyrone Frazier (W 12) | * |
| 1/6/91 | Mike Peak (W 12) | * |
| 2/20/93 | A. Washington (Tech. Win 11) | * |
| 4/3/93 | Fabrice Tiozzo (W 12) | * |
| 8/28/93 | Sergio Merani (W 12) | * |
| 11/10/93 | Saul Montana (KO 10) | * |
| 12/17/93 | Guy Waters (W 12) | * |

—NC

record for successful defenses by a world junior middleweight champion. There are limited historical comparisons to be drawn because the 154-pound division has been in existence only since Emile Griffith became the first titleholder in 1962. Griffith, who was also the world welterweight champion at the time, thought so little of the title (created by the European Boxing Union) that he bothered to make only one defense. Then he vacated to concentrate on more important matters.

Rosi's second reign, now 10 successful defenses long, has been notoriously lacking in quality challengers. Vinny Pazienza? Forget it. Terry Norris? No way. Simon Brown? Are you kidding? The Italian toughman has been bowling over such toothless tigers as Kevin Daigle, Ron Amundsen, and Glenn Wolfe.

Though the alphabet boys have to shoulder much of the blame for sanctioning such shabby title bouts, the fighters and their managers must also share responsibility. A true champion should *demand* that he face the best challengers available. It's the only way to earn an esteemed place in boxing history. Anything less is tantamount to taking the money and running.

Sadly, though readers of THE RING are astute followers of the sport, most casual fans get most of their boxing (mis)information from television. Which brings us back to the main problem. Television is interested only in the short term, and these spurious streaks are hyped in order to boost ratings. It matters little to TV that world titles are being cheapened in the long run; having a tantalizing hook to lure viewers is far more important than putting the defenses of Hill, Canizales, and Rosi in proper perspective. Trust us, you will not hear ESPN's Al Bernstein or USA's Sean O'Grady analyzing the comparative merits of Foster and Hill's challengers.

Foster and Ortiz were undisputed champions who fought and defeated the best of their respective eras. Every era produces great fighters and memorable champions, but to suggest Hill and Canizales have even come close to equaling their accomplishments borders on sacrilege. ■

## ORTIZ vs. CANIZALES

| ORTIZ | | | CANIZALES | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Date | Opponent & Result | Rating | Date | Opponent & Result | Rating |
| 1. 1/1/43 | Kenny Lindsay (W 10) | * | 11/29/88 | Jimmy Navarro (KO 1) | * |
| 2. 1/27/43 | George Freitas (KO 11) | * | 6/24/89 | Kelvin Seabrooks (KO 11) | 6 |
| 3. 3/10/43 | Lou Salica (KO 11) | 1 | 1/24/90 | Billy Hardy (W 12) | * |
| 4. 4/28/43 | Lupe Cardoza (KO 6) | * | 6/10/90 | Paul Gonzales (KO 2) | * |
| 5. 5/26/43 | Joe Robleto (W 15) | * | 8/14/90 | Eddie Rangel (KO 5) | * |
| 6. 7/12/43 | Joe Robleto (KO 7) | * | 5/4/91 | Billy Hardy (KO 8) | 10 |
| 7. 10/1/43 | Leonardo Lopez (KO 4) | 5 | 9/21/91 | Fernie Morales (W 12) | * |
| 8. 11/23/43 | Benny Goldberg (W 15) | 4 | 12/21/91 | Ray Minus (KO 11) | * |
| 9. 3/14/44 | Ernesto Aguilar (W 15) | 10 | 4/23/92 | Francisco Alvarez (W 12) | * |
| 10. 4/4/44 | Tony Olivera (W 15) | 1 | 9/18/92 | Samuel Duran (W 12) | * |
| 11. 9/12/44 | Luis Castillo (KO 4) | 7 | 3/27/93 | Bones Adams (KO 11) | * |
| 12. 11/14/44 | Luis Castillo (KO 9) | 9 | 6/19/93 | Derrick Whiteboy (No-Dec. 3) | * |
| 13. 2/25/46 | Luis Castillo (KO 13) | 4 | 11/20/93 | Juvenal Berrio (W 12) | * |
| 14. 5/18/46 | Kenny Lindsay (KO 5) | * | | | |
| 15. 6/10/46 | Jackie Jurich (KO 11) | 4 | | | |
| 16. 5/30/47 | Kui Kong Young (W 15) | 6 | | | |
| 17. 12/20/47 | Tirso Del Rosario (KO 8) | * | | | |
| 18. 7/4/48 | Memo Valero (KO 8) | * | | | |
| 19. 3/1/49 | Dado Marino (W 15) (at flyweight) | 3 | | | |

Note: While Del Rosario and Valero were not ranked before challenging Ortiz, they popped up in THE RING ratings immediately afterward, suggesting they were quality fighters who had previously been overlooked.

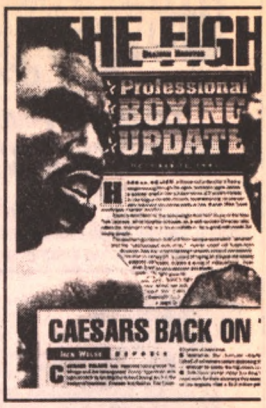
—NC


# TRY THE BEST!

☆ "The best" - Emanuel Steward

☆ "A great paper" -Bobby Czyz

☆ "A great job" - Gil Clancy




$12 TRIAL OFFER

Try 7-issues of America's *best* boxing guide, ***Boxing Update & Flash***, for the latest news, upcoming fights, TV guide plus action-packed photos twice as fast as the newstand magazines. Get an issue every 10 days, 3 times a month!!

**TRIAL SUB OFFER - 7 Issues**

❑ 7-Issue Trial . . . . $**12.00** (Foreign $24)

**FULL SUBS Get FREE T-Shirt**

❑ 4-Mo/12-issue . $**25.00** (Foreign $45)
❑ 8-Mo/24-issue . $**50.00** (Foreign $90)
❑ 1-Yr/36-issue . . $ **72.00** (Foreign $132)

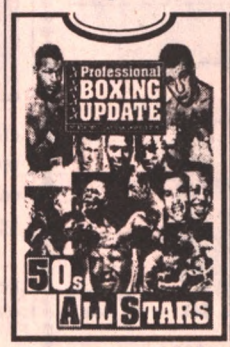
Name

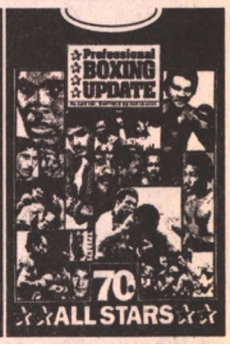
Address

City State Zip

Mail payment: **BOXING UPDATE/FLASH**
PO Box 789, Capitola CA 95010-0789

☆ ***Robinson, Marciano*** or ***Ali, Duran,*** the choice is yours... Become a full subscriber & get a ***Free*** T-shirt of your choice...




❑ Large ❑ X-Large ❑ Large ❑ X-Large

**T-SHIRT without sub - $18 each/ppd**

***The Legacy Continues...***

Share in the History of Boxing with Roberto Duran, Julio Cesar Chavez, Alexis Arguello, Carlos Ortiz, Kid Gavilan, & Salvador Sanchez...

See them all in "Latin Legends"–The Movie, An exciting feature length film hosted by Edward James Olmos, coming soon to theatres everywhere.

**100% Wool Pro Cap:** Embroidered gold logo on front. One size fits all. Colors: Black only **$18.95**

**T-Shirt:** 100% Preshrunk cotton, full back exclusive 4-color artwork of all the Latin Legends with left chest gold logo. Colors: White only Sizes: L, XL only **$15.95**

Send Check or Money Order payable to Latin Legends Ent. to: **Latin Legends - Mail Order Dept. P.O. Box 34189 - Los Angeles, CA 90034-0189**

| | Qty | Size | Cost |
|---|---|---|---|
| Wool Pro Cap | | | |
| T-Shirt | | | |
| Sub Total | | | |
| S & H | | | |
| Total | | | |

Name_____ Apt #_____

Address_____

City_____State____ Zip_____

We also accept VISA, MasterCard ($25 minimum) Provide credit card information to charge purchase.

☐ Check or Money Order enclosed

☐ Visa#_____

☐ MasterCard_____

Expiration Date:____/____

Signature_____

Postage & Handling: U.S. orders add $3 each item. Foreign orders add $7 each item Allow 4-6 weeks for delivery. International money orders in U.S. funds only.



# MOVING?

**Kindly give us 8 weeks advance notice**

Are you moving? If so, please give us 8 weeks advance notice so we can continue to service your subscription promptly. Check the magazine(s) listed below you subscribe to:

☐ **BOXING 94 / WORLD BOXING**
☐ **KO**
☐ **THE RING**

NAME

OLD ADDRESS

CITY

STATE ZIP

NEW ADDRESS

CITY

STATE ZIP

EFF. DATE

*Clip this form and send to:*

**LONDON PUBLISHING CO.**
**P.O. BOX 910**
**FT. WASHINGTON, PA 19034**


# Come Out Writing

*(Continued from page 6)*

## WHAT'S THE *REAL* DEAL?

Evander Holyfield confused me with his stance on his next defense. First he said he wanted to fight WBC heavyweight champion Lennox Lewis to unify the title. Then, when the alphabet organizations threatened to strip him for failing to defend against the top-rated Michael Moorer, Holyfield forgot Lewis and agreed to fight Moorer because of his respect for the title. Wait a minute. If he respected the title so much, why didn't he stick to his guns? After all, Lewis is the co-champion, not Moorer. Holyfield-Lewis is the fight the people want to see, and it's the also the most meaningful matchup that can be made.

The Moorer fight might be a good one, but the way I see it, Holyfield contradicted himself by bowing to the alphabet boys. I've come to expect more than that from one of our few exemplary champs.

RONALD GESTWICKI
Mount Vernon, NY

## WHERE'S JOEY?

Whatever happened to Joey Gamache? He's a two-division world champion, and he impressed me with his heart in losing the lightweight title to Tony Lopez. Has Gamache retired? If so, why? He's still young and could be a champion again.

BILLY STANNE
Woodside, NY

(Editor's note: Gamache remains active. In fact, he's rated first at lightweight by the WBA and is all but guaranteed a shot at champion Nazarov Olzubek. In Gamache's last effort, he won the vacant NABF junior welterweight title by scoring a one-sided decision over Jeff Mayweather.

# Romero

*(Continued from page 16)*

efforts through Kid Dynamita Enterprises, and is promoting fight cards around Albuquerque. For continued stability, Romero's earnings are tied into a revenue-generating trust fund.

Many of Romero's early pro outings were in nearby Phoenix, a more active market with televised cable cards and available connections. His debut in August '92 provided blunt evidence of what lay ahead when he creamed Ra... Hernandez with the first real punch he threw. "... was expecting a little bit more, but I got him ou... with one shot, and that's okay, too," he said.

It wasn't long before fans learned to expect ... lot from the youngster. Just four days af... crushing Hernandez, he appeared on the *Tuesda... Night Thunder* series that was distributed t... sports bars around the country. More folks got ... look, but again it was brief—35 seconds to b... exact, but more than enough time to impress. Mauro Betancourt was the victim, and Romero nailed him so quickly it seemed as if he scored the knockout while still standing in his corner. It looked like one of those "want to see it again" jokes where nobody moves.

Romero had already learned about turning nerves into power. "I call it anxiety strength," he said at the time. "I'm going to 20-0 like that."

The flyweight progressed to another level on a Prime Network card featuring Junior Jones and David Gonzales. The stars came through, but Romero also generated praise in the walk-out bout against Oscar Jimenez. Romero's opponent sprinted from his corner, throwing wildly. Romero responded with a beautiful right that flipped Jimenez into the timekeeper's lap. Jimenez splayed across the ropes in an ostrich position, and Romero had another first-round kayo, prompting TV announcer Barry McGuigan to do a double-take. "Even with the excellent talent in the ring tonight, he stood out," said the former featherweight champion. "This kid looks like the genuine article."

Romero is peaking at just the right time as a contender, and the Albuquerque faithful are growing rabid. Acceptance, however, wasn't always so easy. The locals were shy after being bitten through the buildup and self-destruction of recent hometown hero Johnny Tapia. Tapia made it to the brink, but then went over the edge, his involvement with drugs spoiling a promising career.

"At first, when we talked about a title fight at home, everybody said look what happened to Tapia," recalls Romero. "Watching how he dropped off gives me a push. I've known him since our amateur days and he's still my friend. He's a good man and a great fighter, but he was always in the wrong place at the wrong time. I've never been in trouble, and it's due to discipline I attribute to my parents. I've got good people around me, and I know I won't get things I want if I'm not careful. I love hot rods; I just got a beautiful white Mercedes. If I screw up, there won't be any more of that. You can't have the whole pie. That's why I train so hard."

The philosophy has led to rigorous and sometimes unconventional methods.

"I obviously can't get away from training, so we do exotic things," says the fighter. "I remember seeing guys like Holyfield and Leonard with off-beat routines. We'll try anything to see if it helps, and Dad sits up at three in the morning dreaming of new tricks."

One thing that seems to work is setting up paint cans across the floor and practicing footwork on top of them. But not every method has been so successful. "One time I was working out on a trampoline," he said, "and I threw a left hook off-balance and fell to the floor on my back." It's about as close to being down as Romero has come, amateur or pro.

Romero recently signed with Top Rank, which is probably a first-class ticket to a title shot. "Just walking into Bob Arum's office was more intimidating than anything I've faced in the ring," he recalls. "I watched the way he built Carbajal, and now Michael's the man. They promised me that if I did my part, they'd try to put me in a similar position. That's all we needed to hear. We've got a couple more fights, then I may get a title shot by July."

Arum gave Romero immediate national exposure as the opening bout on an ESPN card from San Diego. The opponent was rugged Armando Diaz, last seen surviving the bombs of Chiquita Gonzalez. There's no way to tell what Chiquita took out of Diaz, but Romero sure made his victory look easy. Kid Dynamita demonstrated an improved jab and straight right. Diaz offered movement, but a composed Romero steadily increased the leather and the heat like he was boiling the catch of the day. As the eighth round ended, a right-left dropped Diaz flat on his back, and 42 seconds into the ninth a pair of rights jackhammered him down for good.

"I don't go out punching crazy; I'm intelligent about it," Romero said. "I bring added charisma, like the power of Mike Tyson. I always come to put on a show with my boxing skills, but I can also knock them out with one punch. The only other one like that is Carbajal."

Immediately after the fight, Romero smiled for the cameras. "That's for all the people in Albuquerque!" said the beaming victor. "I love my city and want to give something back to all the fighters and fans."

We're sure a showdown with Carbajal would do just fine. ■

***Phil Woolever, who is based in Tucson, Arizona, is a frequent contributor to* THE RING.**


**American Kenpo**
**CONNECTION**

***Presents Instructional Videos***
***As Demonstrated By Master Herb Patus***

Let AKC instruct you with a knowledge that is coveted by many and possessed by few.

Boxing hands are perhaps some of the best in close weapons offered. Combine them with elbows...they become totally awesome!

Learn how to combine vicious elbow strikes off of the same flow of your punch with...

***21 COMBINATIONS OF THE SPEED BAG***

Never before has a tape of this caliber been offered to the public. This tape can instruct a complete novice in a step-by-step progressive manner – how to operate the mystical speed bag with incredible hand-elbow combinations.

*This tape includes Freeze-Frames, Graphics, and Slow Motion for easy learning.

Add power to your blocks and punches while maintaining speed and flexibility with...

***WEIGHT TRAINING FOR MARTIAL ARTS***

If you are in a sport that requires speed and flexibility, you would not want to adapt a Mr. Universe training routine. Learn weight training techniques that will enhance your fighting capabilities rather than deter from them.

Learn to use Martial Art-type exercises and drills that not only work all of the major muscle groups, but also conditions you for defense with...

***ISOMETRIC TRAINING***

The isometric exercises used in this training session are specifically designed to stretch and tone the body and to prepare you for a more stringent weight routine and/or self defense training...plus you will look and feel great!

**INDIVIDUAL TAPES $39.95 EACH**
**OR BUY ALL 3 TAPES FOR ONLY $29.95 EACH**
Plus Tax
(Add $3.00 Shipping & Handling • Allow 4-6 weeks for delivery)

**AMERICAN KENPO CONNECTION**
P.O. Box 4305 • San Diego, CA 92164
**619-234-3837**



TRAIN OR BE TRAINED

- WARM-UPS
- BOXING STANCE
- ROADWORK
- HAND WRAPS
- FOOT WORK
- HEAVY BAG
- SPEED BAG
- ROPE
- AIMING YOUR PUNCH
- SHADOW BOXING
- SINGLE PUNCHES
- 10 COMBINATIONS

BOXEROBICS™
The Boxing Video

JIMMY LENNON, Jr. introduces four boxing instructors who demonstrate the twelve basics of BOXEROBICS. From beginner to advanced athlete — you will benefit from this thorough workout! Approx. running time: 60 MINS.

NAME _____ C/ _____
ADDRESS _____ ST/RD/AVE
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIPCODE _____
METHOD OF PAYMENT: ☐ CHECK ☐ MONEY ORDER ☐ VISA ☐ MC
CARD NUMBER _____ EXP. _____
SIGNATURE _____

SEND $19.95 + $3 ($6 OUTSIDE U.S.) FOR SHIPPING & HANDLING TO:
BOXEROBICS P.O. BOX 67C29 LOS ANGELES, CA. 90067
CALIFORNIA RESIDENTS ADD APPLICABLE SALES TAX. PAYABLE IN U.S. DOLLARS ONLY.
AVAILABLE IN VHS ONLY. PLEASE ALLOW 2-3 WEEKS FOR DELIVERY.

# Worldwide Ratings

**WBC**
as of December

**WBA**
as of December

**IBF**
as of January

| HEAVYWEIGHTS | WBC | WBA | IBF |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Lennox Lewis (GB)** | C | – | – |
| **Evander Holyfield (USA)** | – | C | C |
| Oliver McCall (USA) | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| Michael Moorer (USA) | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Tony Tucker (USA) | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| Lionel Butler (USA) | 4 | – | – |
| Phil Jackson (USA) | 5 | 7 | 11 |
| Frank Bruno (GB) | 6 | 12 | 10 |
| Larry Holmes (USA) | 7 | – | – |
| Joe Hipp (USA) | 8 | – | – |
| Corrie Sanders (SA) | 9 | 9 | 6 |
| Henry Akinwande (GB) | 10 | 10 | 9 |
| Riddick Bowe (USA) | – | 4 | 4 |
| Herbie Hide (GB) | – | 5 | 7 |
| Razor Ruddock (CAN) | – | 6 | – |
| Alex Stewart (JAM) | 11 | 8 | – |
| Bruce Seldon (USA) | 15 | – | 5 |
| George Foreman (USA) | – | – | 8 |

| CRUISERWEIGHTS | WBC | WBA | IBF |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Anaclet Wamba (FRA)** | C | – | – |
| **Orlin Norris (USA)** | – | C | – |
| **Alfred Cole (USA)** | – | – | C |
| Arthur Williams (USA) | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| Thomas Hearns (USA) | 2 | 3 | 6 |
| Norbert Ekassi (CAM) | 3 | 5 | 8 |
| Massimiliano Duran (ITA) | 4 | 12 | – |
| Robert Daniels (USA) | 5 | 6 | 9 |
| Akim Tafer (FRA) | 6 | 10 | – |
| Kenny Keene (USA) | 7 | 8 | 11 |
| Jade Scott (USA) | 8 | – | 7 |
| Dennis Andries (GB) | 9 | – | – |
| Adolpho Washington (USA) | 10 | – | 4 |
| Bobby Czyz (USA) | – | 2 | – |
| Nate Miller (USA) | – | 4 | 1 |
| James Warring (USA) | 18 | 7 | – |
| Marcelo Figueroa (ARG) | 17 | 9 | – |
| Uriah Grant (USA) | 16 | – | 2 |
| Richard Mason (USA) | 13 | – | 5 |
| Przemyslaw Saleta (POL) | 19 | – | 10 |

| LT. HEAVYWEIGHTS | WBC | WBA | IBF |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Jeff Harding (AUSTRL)** | C | – | – |
| **Virgil Hill (USA)** | – | C | – |
| **Henry Maske (GER)** | – | – | C |
| Randall Yonker (USA) | 1 | 6 | – |
| Frank Tate (USA) | 2 | 1 | 4 |
| Egerton Marcus (CAN) | 3 | 10 | 3 |
| Mike McCallum (JAM) | 4 | – | 6 |
| Ernie Magdaleno (USA) | 5 | 9 | 1 |
| Eddy Smulders (HOLL) | 6 | 3 | 8 |
| Charles Williams (USA) | 7 | – | 2 |
| Ernest Mateen (USA) | 8 | – | 9 |
| Fabrice Tiozzo (FRA) | 9 | 4 | 7 |
| Darius Michalczewski (POL) | 10 | 7 | 5 |
| Wang Sup Lee (KOR) | 22 | 2 | – |
| Eric Nicoletta (FRA) | 13 | 5 | 10 |
| Crawford Ashley (GB) | 11 | 8 | – |

| SUPER MIDDLEWEIGHTS | WBC | WBA | IBF |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Nigel Benn (GB)** | C | – | – |
| **Michael Nunn (USA)** | – | C | – |
| **James Toney (USA)** | – | – | C |
| Henry Wharton (GB) | 1 | 7 | 5 |
| Frank Liles (USA) | 2 | 2 | 7 |
| Graciano Rocchigiani (GER) | 3 | – | – |
| Tony Byrd (USA) | 4 | 3 | 3 |
| Ray Close (GB) | 5 | – | 8 |
| Vincenzo Nardiello (ITA) | 6 | 11 | 9 |
| Mauro Galvano (ITA) | 7 | – | – |
| James Cook (GB) | 8 | 9 | – |
| Juan Carlos Gimenez (PAR) | 9 | – | – |
| Tony Thornton (USA) | 10 | – | 6 |
| Tim Littles (USA) | – | 1 | 1 |
| Frank Nicotra (FRA) | 23 | 4 | 12 |
| Darrin Van Horn (USA) | – | 5 | 4 |
| Iran Barkley (USA) | – | 6 | – |
| Mauricio Amaral (BRA) | – | 8 | – |
| Byun Gin Kang (KOR) | – | 10 | – |
| Steve Little (USA) | – | – | 2 |
| Merqui Sosa (DR) | – | – | 10 |

| MIDDLEWEIGHTS | WBC | WBA | IBF |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Gerald McClellan (USA)** | C | – | – |
| **John David Jackson (USA)** | – | C | – |
| **Roy Jones (USA)** | – | – | C |
| Lamar Parks (USA) | 1 | 1 | 5 |
| Julian Jackson (VI) | 2 | 7 | 3 |
| Thomas Tate (USA) | 3 | – | 1 |
| Otis Grant (CAN) | 4 | 11 | 4 |
| Vinny Pazienza (USA) | 5 | – | – |
| Steve Collins (IRE) | 6 | 4 | – |
| Agostino Cardamone (ITA) | 7 | – | – |
| Roberto Duran (PAN) | 8 | 9 | 12 |
| Reggie Johnson (USA) | 9 | 2 | 8 |
| Neville Brown (GB) | 10 | – | 10 |
| Bernard Hopkins (USA) | 11 | 3 | 2 |
| Jorge Castro (ARG) | – | 5 | – |
| Segundo Mercado (ECU) | 16 | 6 | 7 |
| Shinji Takehara (JAP) | 22 | 8 | – |
| Mike McCallum (JAM) | – | 10 | – |
| Charles Brewer (USA) | 21 | – | 6 |
| Joe Lipsey (USA) | 12 | 12 | 9 |

| JR. MIDDLEWEIGHTS | WBC | WBA | IBF |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Terry Norris (USA)** | C | – | 2 |
| **Julio Cesar Vasquez (ARG)** | – | C | – |
| **Gianfranco Rosi (ITA)** | – | – | C |
| Simon Brown (USA) | 1 | – | – |
| Troy Waters (AUSTRL) | 2 | – | 12 |
| Carl Daniels (USA) | 3 | 4 | 3 |
| Vincent Pettway (USA) | 4 | 8 | 1 |
| Ronald Wright (USA) | 5 | 2 | 5 |
| Stephen Martinez (USA) | 6 | – | – |
| Yung Kil Chung (KOR) | 7 | – | – |
| Julio C. Green (USA) | 8 | 10 | 4 |
| Robert McCracken (GB) | 9 | – | – |
| Jaime Llanes (MEX) | 10 | – | – |
| Vinny Pazienza (USA) | – | 1 | – |
| Aaron Davis (USA) | 12 | 3 | 8 |
| Armand Picar (PHIL) | – | 5 | – |
| Curtis Summit (USA) | 29 | 6 | – |
| Bernard Razzano (FRA) | 14 | 7 | 11 |
| Juan Medina (DR) | – | 9 | – |
| Gilberto Barreto (COL) | – | – | 6 |
| John Montes (USA) | 26 | – | 7 |
| Darrin Morris (USA) | 11 | – | 9 |
| Paul Vaden (USA) | 21 | – | 10 |

| WELTERWEIGHTS | WBC | WBA | IBF |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Pernell Whitaker (USA)** | C | – | – |
| **Crisanto Espana (VEN)** | – | C | – |
| **Felix Trinidad (PR)** | – | – | C |
| Santos Cardona (PR) | 1 | – | – |
| Yori Boy Campas (MEX) | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| James McGirt (USA) | 3 | 10 | 7 |
| Oba Carr (USA) | 4 | – | 4 |
| Larry Barnes (USA) | 5 | 6 | 2 |
| Gary Jacobs (GB) | 6 | 5 | – |
| Meldrick Taylor (USA) | 7 | 8 | 11 |
| Wilfredo Rivera (PR) | 8 | – | 6 |
| Luis Santana (USA) | 9 | – | – |
| Jung Oh Park (KOR) | 10 | 4 | – |
| Ike Quartey (GHA) | – | 1 | 3 |
| Gert Jacobsen (DEN) | – | 3 | – |
| Freddy Ladd (USA) | – | 7 | 12 |
| Andrew Murray (GUY) | 12 | 9 | 5 |
| Hector Camacho (PR) | – | – | 8 |
| Kevin Pompey (USA) | 13 | – | 9 |
| David Gonzalez (USA) | 15 | – | 10 |

| WELTERWEIGHTS | WBC | WBA | IBF |
|---|---|---|---|
| Cesar Chavez (MEX) | C | – | – |
| M. Coggi (ARG) | – | C | – |
| Murray (USA) | – | – | C |
| Randall (USA) | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| Antau (USA) | 2 | 10 | 12 |
| Milligan (GB) | 3 | 12 | – |
| Tszyu (RUS) | 4 | – | 1 |
| Ali (USA) | 5 | – | – |
| Lopez (MEX) | 6 | – | – |
| Lopez (USA) | 7 | – | – |
| Gonzalez (MEX) | 8 | – | – |
| Hagen (USA) | 9 | – | – |
| Merle (FRA) | 10 | 2 | – |
| Cortes (ARG) | – | 3 | – |
| Hagman (SA) | – | 4 | – |
| Gonzalez (COL) | – | 5 | – |
| Garza (USA) | 26 | 6 | – |
| Park (KOR) | 30 | 7 | – |
| Santos (USA) | 16 | 8 | – |
| Pineda (COL) | 14 | 9 | 10 |
| Sanchez (DR) | – | – | 2 |
| Moore (USA) | 21 | – | 4 |
| Padilla (COL) | – | – | 5 |
| Hernandez (PR) | – | – | 6 |
| Tyson (USA) | 19 | – | 7 |
| Pineda (COL) | – | – | 8 |
| Mayweather (USA) | 23 | – | 9 |

| LIGHTWEIGHTS | WBC | WBA | IBF |
|---|---|---|---|
| Angel Gonzalez (MEX) | C | – | – |
| Oliubek (JAP) | – | C | – |
| Pendleton (USA) | – | – | C |
| Johnson (USA) | 1 | 5 | 3 |
| Mitchell (USA) | 2 | 2 | 7 |
| Mendy (FRA) | 3 | 4 | 4 |
| Julio (COL) | 4 | 9 | 2 |
| Marchena (MEX) | 5 | – | – |
| Corrache (USA) | 6 | 1 | – |
| Sample (USA) | 7 | – | – |
| Paez (MEX) | 8 | – | – |
| Thobela (SA) | 9 | 6 | 8 |
| Schwer (GB) | 10 | – | 12 |
| Tejeda (ARG) | – | 3 | – |
| Rueles (USA) | – | 7 | 1 |
| Lopez (USA) | – | 8 | 9 |
| Burchak (RUS) | – | 10 | – |
| Molina (COL) | 26 | 12 | 5 |
| Marimon (COL) | – | – | 6 |
| Evgen (USA) | – | – | 10 |

| LIGHTWEIGHTS | WBC | WBA | IBF |
|---|---|---|---|
| Nelson (GHA) | C | – | – |
| Hernandez (USA) | – | C | – |
| John Molina (PR) | – | – | C |
| Rueles (USA) | 1 | 5 | 4 |
| Leija (USA) | 2 | – | – |
| Grove (USA) | 3 | – | 3 |
| Garcia (COL) | 4 | – | – |
| Yoma (FRA) | 5 | 7 | 9 |
| Tuur (HOLL) | 6 | – | 11 |
| De La Hoya (USA) | 7 | 4 | 6 |
| Pep (CAN) | 8 | – | – |
| Gipson (USA) | 9 | – | 5 |
| Speed (USA) | 10 | – | 8 |
| Guevara (VEN) | 21 | 1 | – |
| Garcia (COL) | – | 2 | – |
| Hugo Paz (ARG) | 11 | 3 | – |
| Warren (USA) | 19 | 6 | – |
| Soo Choi (KOR) | – | 8 | – |
| Rodriguez (DR) | 15 | 9 | 1 |
| Murphy (USA) | – | 10 | – |
| Pedroza (COL) | – | – | 2 |
| Taylor (USA) | – | – | 7 |
| Hayard (GB) | – | – | 10 |

| FEATHERWEIGHTS | WBC | WBA | IBF |
|---|---|---|---|
| Kelley (USA) | C | – | – |
| Rojas (VEN) | – | C | – |
| Johnson (USA) | – | – | C |
| Soto (MEX) | 1 | – | – |
| Vargas (MEX) | 2 | – | – |
| Hodkinson (GB) | 3 | 3 | – |
| Arroyal (PHIL) | 4 | 7 | 5 |
| Beleno (COL) | 5 | – | 3 |
| Asakawa (JAP) | 6 | 5 | – |
| Lizarraga (USA) | 7 | – | – |
| Segura (USA) | 8 | 11 | 2 |
| Green (USA) | 9 | – | 4 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Chris Saguid (PHIL) | 10 | 8 | – |
| Luis Mendoza (COL) | – | 1 | – |
| Yung Kyun Park (KOR) | 11 | 2 | – |
| Orlando Soto (PAN) | – | 4 | 1 |
| Jesse Leija (USA) | – | 6 | – |
| Sean Murphy (GB) | – | 9 | – |
| Stephane Haccoun (FRA) | 17 | 10 | – |
| Alejandro Gonzalez (MEX) | – | – | 6 |
| Jose Badillo (PR) | – | – | 7 |
| Harold Warren (USA) | – | – | 8 |
| Fernando Rodriguez (USA) | – | – | 9 |
| Ole Kiatwanway (THAI) | – | – | 10 |

| JR. FEATHERWEIGHTS | WBC | WBA | IBF |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Tracy Patterson (USA)** | C | – | – |
| **Wilfredo Vasquez (PR)** | – | C | – |
| **Kennedy McKinney (USA)** | – | – | C |
| Julio Gervacio (DR) | 1 | – | 3 |
| Yuichi Kasai (JAP) | 2 | 2 | – |
| Daniel Zaragoza (MEX) | 3 | – | – |
| Welcome Ncita (SA) | 4 | 6 | 1 |
| Freddy Cruz (DR) | 5 | – | – |
| Jesse Benavides (USA) | 6 | 8 | – |
| Jesus Salud (USA) | 7 | – | 8 |
| Yong Woon Park (KOR) | 8 | – | – |
| Jose Rincones (VEN) | 9 | 9 | 7 |
| Richard Duran (USA) | 10 | – | – |
| Jae Won Choi (KOR) | – | 1 | – |
| Antonio Cermeno (VEN) | 18 | 3 | – |
| Ramon Guzman (VEN) | – | 4 | – |
| Arnulfo Romero (PAN) | – | 5 | – |
| Hiroaki Yokota (JAP) | 15 | 7 | – |
| Maui Diaz (USA) | 27 | 10 | 4 |
| Nurhuda (INDO) | – | – | 2 |
| Pablo Ozuna (COL) | – | – | 5 |
| Cesar Soto (MEX) | – | – | 6 |
| Cesar Polanco (DR) | – | – | 9 |
| Luis Mendoza (COL) | – | – | 10 |

| BANTAMWEIGHTS | WBC | WBA | IBF |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Jung Il Byun (KOR)** | C | 12 | – |
| **Junior Jones (USA)** | – | C | – |
| **Orlando Canizales (USA)** | – | – | C |
| Victor Rabanales (MEX) | 1 | – | – |
| Daorung Chuvatana (THAI) | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Yasuei Yakushiji (JAP) | 3 | – | – |
| Eliecer Julio (COL) | 4 | 3 | 10 |
| Yong Hoon Lee (KOR) | 5 | 2 | – |
| Dong Choon Lee (KOR) | 6 | – | – |
| Vincenzo Belcastro (ITA) | 7 | 11 | – |
| John Armour (GB) | 8 | – | – |
| Drew Docherty (GB) | 9 | – | – |
| Wayne McCullough (IRE) | 10 | – | – |
| Eddie Cook (USA) | – | 4 | 5 |
| Abraham Torres (VEN) | 27 | 5 | 9 |
| Nana Konadu (GHA) | – | 6 | – |
| Alfred Kotey (GHA) | – | 7 | – |
| In Joo Cho (KOR) | 19 | 8 | – |
| Frank Toledo (USA) | – | 9 | 12 |
| Elvis Alvarez (COL) | – | 10 | – |
| Juvenal Berrio (COL) | – | – | 1 |
| Harold Mestre (COL) | 11 | – | 2 |
| Lauren Ramirez (SPA) | – | – | 4 |
| Ricardo Vargas (MEX) | 15 | – | 6 |
| Derrick Whiteboy (SA) | 29 | – | 7 |
| Gerardo Martinez (USA) | – | – | 8 |

| JR. BANTAMWEIGHTS | WBC | WBA | IBF |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Jose Luis Bueno (MEX)** | C | – | – |
| **Katsuya Onizuka (JAP)** | – | C | – |
| **Julio Borboa (MEX)** | – | – | C |
| Marco A. Barrera (MEX) | 1 | – | 6 |
| Carlos Salazar (ARG) | 2 | 5 | – |
| Sung Kil Moon (KOR) | 3 | – | – |
| Josefino Suarez (MEX) | 4 | – | – |
| Hiroshi Kawashima (JAP) | 5 | 8 | – |
| Nana Konadu (GHA) | 6 | – | – |
| Alfred Kotey (GHA) | 7 | – | – |
| Cecilio Espino (MEX) | 8 | – | – |
| Seung Koo Lee (KOR) | 9 | 4 | – |
| Khaoyai Mahasarakam (THAI) | 10 | 2 | – |
| Hyung Chul Lee (KOR) | 15 | 1 | – |
| Ernesto Briceno (VEN) | – | 3 | – |
| Ernie Cataluna (PHIL) | – | 6 | – |
| Lamhot Simamora (INDO) | 28 | 7 | 12 |
| Ricardo Vargas (MEX) | – | 9 | – |
| Gerry Penalosa (PHIL) | 11 | 10 | – |
| San Sor Pleonchit (THAI) | – | – | 1 |
| Harold Gray (COL) | – | – | 2 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Robert Quiroga (USA) | 18 | – | 3 |
| Joel Luna (MEX) | – | – | 4 |
| Carlos Mercado (COL) | – | – | 5 |
| Rodolfo Blanco (COL) | – | – | 7 |
| Little Guns Pumar (PHIL) | – | – | 8 |
| John Johnson (USA) | 13 | – | 9 |
| Rolando Pascua (PHIL) | 24 | – | 10 |

| FLYWEIGHTS | WBC | WBA | IBF |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Yuri Arbachakov (RUS)** | C | – | – |
| **David Griman (VEN)** | – | C | – |
| **Phichit Sithbangprachan (THAI)** | – | – | C |
| Hugo Soto (ARG) | 1 | 12 | – |
| Alberto Jimenez (MEX) | 2 | – | – |
| Isaias Zamudio (USA) | 3 | – | 10 |
| Mark Johnson (USA) | 4 | – | 6 |
| Chatchai Elite-Gym (THAI) | 5 | – | – |
| Jesus Zuniga (COL) | 6 | – | – |
| Scotty Olson (USA) | 7 | – | 2 |
| Danny Nunez (DR) | 8 | – | – |
| Nam Hoon Cha (KOR) | 9 | – | – |
| Alvaro Mercado (COL) | 10 | 3 | – |
| Aquiles Guzman (VEN) | 21 | 1 | – |
| Evangelino Perez (PAN) | – | 2 | – |
| Jesus Rojas (VEN) | 13 | 4 | – |
| Hiroki Ioka (JAP) | 18 | 5 | – |
| San Sor Pleonchit (THAI) | – | 6 | – |
| Yong Kang Kim (KOR) | – | 7 | – |
| Jose Luis Zepeda (MEX) | – | 8 | 1 |
| Chokchai Chorniwat (THAI) | 24 | 9 | – |
| Jose Bonilla (VEN) | 17 | 10 | – |
| Francisco Tejedor (COL) | – | – | 3 |
| Ferid Ben Jeddou (TUN) | 20 | – | 4 |
| Arthur Johnson (USA) | – | – | 5 |
| Abdi Pohan (INDO) | – | – | 7 |
| Robbie Regan (GB) | 12 | 11 | 8 |
| Alfred Kotey (GHA) | – | – | 9 |

| LIGHT FLYWEIGHTS | WBC | WBA | IBF |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Michael Carbajal (USA)** | C | – | C |
| **Leo Gamez (VEN)** | – | C | – |
| Humberto Gonzalez (MEX) | 1 | 6 | 4 |
| Javier Varguez (MEX) | 2 | – | – |
| Jesus Chong (MEX) | 3 | 7 | – |
| Melchor Cob Castro (MEX) | 4 | 8 | 7 |
| Enrique Orozco (MEX) | 5 | – | – |
| Fahlan Lukmingkwan (THAI) | 6 | 4 | 2 |
| Victor Villanueva (MEX) | 7 | – | – |
| Kwang Sun Kim (KOR) | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| Narciso Rodriguez (DR) | 9 | – | – |
| Miguel Angel Granados (MEX) | 10 | – | – |
| Juan A. Torres (PAN) | – | 1 | 1 |
| Hi Yong Choi (KOR) | 17 | 2 | – |
| Virgilio Chifundo (PAN) | 21 | 3 | – |
| Shiro Yahiro (JAP) | 14 | 5 | 11 |
| Yong Jim Kim (KOR) | – | 10 | – |
| Jesus Zuniga (COL) | – | – | 3 |
| Robinson Cuesta (PAN) | – | – | 5 |
| Leon Salazar (PAN) | – | – | 6 |
| Azadin Anhar (INDO) | – | – | 8 |
| Marcos Pacheco (MEX) | 24 | – | 9 |

| STRAWWEIGHTS | WBC | WBA | IBF |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Ricardo Lopez (MEX)** | C | – | – |
| **Chana Porpaoin (THAI)** | – | C | – |
| **Ratanapol Vorapin (THAI)** | – | – | C |
| Kermin Guardia (COL) | 1 | 4 | – |
| Jose Luis Zepeda (MEX) | 2 | – | – |
| Pretty Boy Lucas (PHIL) | 3 | 11 | – |
| Ala Villamor (PHIL) | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| Andy Tabanas (PHIL) | 5 | – | – |
| Manny Melchor (PHIL) | 6 | – | – |
| Carlos Rodriguez (VEN) | 7 | 3 | 1 |
| Myung Sup Park (KOR) | 8 | – | – |
| Toto Pow Phongasawang (THAI) | 9 | – | – |
| Jin Ho Kim (KOR) | 10 | 2 | – |
| Carlos Murillo (PAN) | 12 | 1 | 8 |
| Saman Sor Jaturong (THAI) | 11 | 6 | – |
| Ronnie Magramo (PHIL) | 16 | 7 | 9 |
| Seo Kjin Yang (KOR) | 14 | 8 | – |
| Kusuo Eguchi (JAP) | 17 | 9 | – |
| Pichitnoi Sithbangprachan (THAI) | 30 | 10 | 2 |
| Marcelino Bolivar (VEN) | – | – | 3 |
| Onewin Chareon (THAI) | – | – | 4 |
| Felix Naranjo (COL) | – | – | 5 |
| Rafael Torres (DR) | – | – | 7 |
| Oscar Flores (COL) | – | – | 10 |

CLASSIC

From THE RING, June 1952

# POPULARITY

## HOW BEST ATTAINED

*Jersey Joe Walcott scored a dramatic kayo to win the heavyweight title, but he's nonetheless met with indifference by the public.*

**By Jesse Abramson**

Whether Jersey Joe Walcott or Ezzard Charles will be the defending heavyweight champion in the projected September match with Rocky Marciano is a question of great moment, undoubtedly, to Walcott and to Charles. Possibly to Marciano too, though the pride of Brockton, Massachusetts, doesn't seem to care much whom he will fight. It is not, unfortunately, of vital interest to the boxing world or to the gener-

*Charles lacks the personality to capture the public's imagination. It didn't help that in order to universal recognition as champion, he had to defeat the legendary Joe Louis.*

# The Public Makes the Final Decision ... Clouting Ability Is the Biggest Factor

Unfortunately is the word for this state of because it is a maxim of the ring that goes as the heavyweight champion —in a financial sense, and perhaps also in a political sense, if that's the word for it. That is to say that boxing prospers when it a magnetic and popular heavyweight leader. haps Eddie Eagan would not have been osed as chairman of the New York State tic Commission if the reigning heavyweight champion was as electrifying a figure as Joe Louis or Jack Dempsey.

To pursue this fancy a moment, perhaps boxing might not have required its current house-cleaning in New York if it had a fighting and popular heavyweight champion whose adventures in and out of the ring made better copy and bigger headlines than investigations.

For it is a fact that neither Walcott nor Charles has the great popularity which some of their predecessors enjoyed.

In his campaign to cement reciprocal agreements with all the important sister states, Robert K. Christenberry, New York chairman, said, "No one can cure the ills of boxing." One man, a popular heavyweight champion, however, could perhaps do it.

When the boxing world is captivated by its heavyweight monarch, it isn't much interested in house-cleaning, essential though cleaning house may be deemed by commissioners or politicians.

Old Jersey Joe Walcott, who made a career of

fistic failure until that one shattering left hook on Charles' hitherto rugged jaw last July brought him, at last, to his long-pursued goal, attained the distinction of becoming the oldest man ever to win boxing's number-one prize.

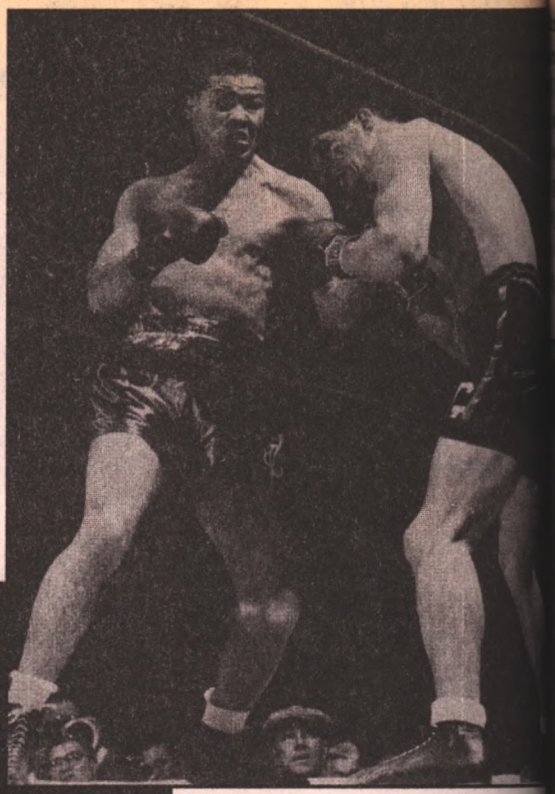
It did not, however, bring him vast popularity. To be sure, there was a surge of astonishment and interest throughout the world that such an antique as J.J.W. could finally win boxing's richest plum in an historic fifth attempt.

Arnold Cream's log of failure and his boxing equipment—technical skill blanketed under extreme caution—had not endeared him to the public. It could take Jersey Joe or leave him alone. His reign as champion created no excitement whatsoever.

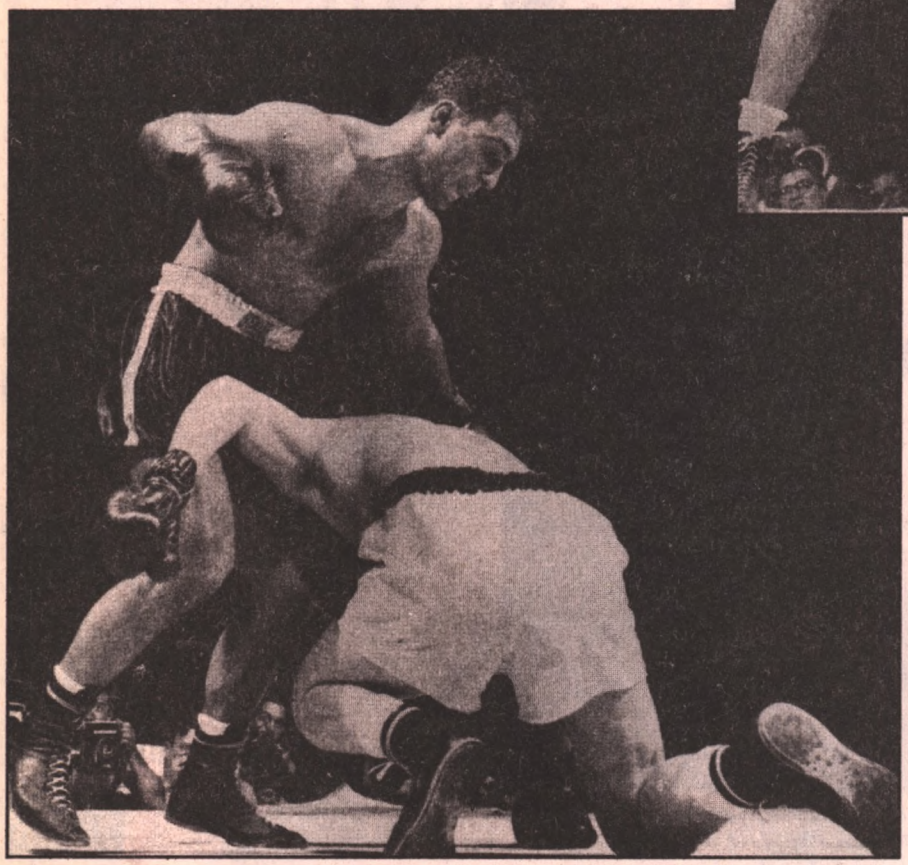
Manager Felix Bocchicchio's plea that Jersey Joe deserved a chance to capitalize on his championship—not by fighting within 90 days as the contract said, but through exhibitions—struck no responsive chord among boxing followers. No one knocked barn doors down anywhere to see the new champion or to mark his resemblance to Methuselah.

It isn't that Walcott is unpopular, as others of his predecessors have been. It's just that he isn't a John L. Sullivan or Jack Dempsey or Joe Louis. Well, Walcott can philosophize that not many champions have attained such esteem as "The Boston Strong Boy," "The Manassa Mauler," or "The Brown Bomber."

*Joe Louis, punishing Arturo Godoy during their bloody rematch, possessed the one asset the public demands from its favorite fighters: destructive punching power.*



*Rocky Marciano watches Rex Layne fall at his feet during their July 1951 clash, won by The Rock in six rounds. Should Marciano win the title, he'll be far more popular than either Walcott or Charles.*



***

Walcott is reputedly a loving father and good husband, a devoted Bible student, an exponent of clean living. Withal, Walcott did not endear himself to the public by proclaiming, ill-advisedly, that he would defend his title whenever his manager saw fit, within a year or within five years. In the distant pre-commission days, a champion could consider himself the sole boss of when he could defend his title. But public opinion backs up commissions, which gives at least service to the rule that a champion must his title every six months.

Walcott further alienated the affection many with his curious slant on his mission titleholder. It was more important, avowed champion, to do his good works for the you America than to defend his title. Boxing might think, rather, that a fighting champion a more important example to boxers than a fighting champion would be as an example American Boy.

But the modern history of boxing fa reveal the blueprint for popularity. Boxing made an idol of such a hard-drinking sinn Sullivan, also of a champion such as Dem who had to live down charges he was a d dodger in World War I.

But that doesn't mean boxing dislikes thinking, right-doing fellows. Louis became of the most popular of all fist fighters, thoug had no lurid past nor became involved in scan

If there is a pattern for popularity in succession of heavyweight kings, it is that bo loves a great puncher who loves the ring, tha boxing world does not lightly discard its even when they get dethroned, that boxing heroes have solidified their hold on the publ the hour of their defeat, and that their conq have generally failed to win acclaim along their championships.

Solace there has been for the less popular champions. Gene Tunney, for instance, took the title and let the acclaim go for Sweeney. Failure to hold on to one's ring riches did not make the public love Sullivan or Louis less.

Our grandfathers tell us that John L. was the truly popular heavyweight champion. The vices and vices that endeared him to the fighting public and the people then make one wonder at the charm of the Boston Strong Boy. It was, of course, a different world; boxing was a rowdy and illegal sport.

Though he was a blustering fellow—"My name is John L. Sullivan and I can lick any so-and-so in the house"—by gosh, he did, too—his bull-like strength and tactics in the ring, his bludgeoning blows, his good nature and generosity won him an adoring and steadfast public despite his bouts with the bottle and his other extracurricular escapades.

Would the public today put up with the antics of a champion who announced he was too drunk to fight Charlie Mitchell on the scheduled date, or who quit the ring during a bout for no better reason than he didn't want to fight anymore that night, or who drew the color line in a less enlightened age to avoid fighting Peter Jackson?

## THE RING RATINGS, *June 1952*

*Kid Gavilan*

### HEAVYWEIGHTS
**World Champ: Jersey Joe Walcott (USA)**

1. Ezzard Charles (USA)
2. Rocky Marciano (USA)
3. Roland LaStarza (USA)
4. Coley Wallace (USA)
5. Clarence Henry (USA)
6. Johnny Williams (England)
7. Bob Dunlop (USA)
8. Cesar Brion (Argentina)
9. Bob Baker (USA)
10. Jimmy Bivins (USA)

### LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
**World Champ: Joey Maxim (USA)**

1. Archie Moore (USA)
2. Harold Johnson (USA)
3. Harry Matthews (USA)
4. Yolande Pompey (British West Indies)
5. Dan Bucceroni (USA)
6. Danny Nardico (USA)
7. Jimmy Slade (USA)
8. Don Cockell (England)
9. Jake LaMotta (USA)
10. Willi Hoepner (Germany)

### MIDDLEWEIGHTS
**World Champ: Ray Robinson (USA)**

1. Randolph Turpin (England)
2. Eugene Hairston (USA)
3. Robert Villemain (France)
4. Dave Sands (Australia)
5. Laurent Dauthuille (France)
6. Carl (Bobo) Olson (Hawaii)
7. Charley Humez (France)
8. Norman Hayes (USA)
9. Paddy Young (USA)
10. Rocky Graziano (USA)

### WELTERWEIGHTS
**World Champ: Kid Gavilan (Cuba)**

1. Billy Graham (USA)
2. Gil Turner (USA)
3. Bobby Dykes (USA)
4. Wally Thom (England)
5. Pierre Langlois (France)
6. Johnny Bratton (USA)
7. Freddie Dawson (USA)
8. Chico Vejar (USA)
9. Chuck Davey (USA)
10. Danny Womber (USA)

### LIGHTWEIGHTS
**World Champ: James Carter (USA)**

1. Luther Rawlings (USA)
2. George Araujo (USA)
3. Virgil Akins (USA)
4. Paddy DeMarco (USA)
5. Art Aragon (USA)
6. Lauro Salas (USA)
7. Joe Brown (USA)
8. Jorgen Johansen (Denmark)
9. Tommy McGovern (England)
10. Del Flanagan (USA)

### FEATHERWEIGHTS
**World Champ: Sandy Saddler (USA)**

1. Willie Pep (USA)
2. Ray Famechon (France)
3. Roy Ankarah (West Africa)
4. Luis Romero (Spain)
5. Ciro Morasen (Cuba)
6. Gene Smith (USA)
7. Glen Flanagan (USA)
8. Fabela Chavez (USA)
9. Ronnie Clayton (England)
10. Gabriel Diaz (Mexico)

### BANTAMWEIGHTS
**World Champ: Vic Toweel (South Africa)**

1. Jimmy Carruthers (Australia)
2. Jean Sneyers (Belgium)
3. Maurice Sandeyron (France)
4. Peter Keenan (Scotland)
5. Alvaro Nuvoloni (Italy)
6. Frankie Williams (England)
7. Gianni Zuddas (Italy)
8. Andre Vilignat (France)
9. Rudy Langer (Germany)
10. Theo Medina (France)

### FLYWEIGHTS
World Champ: Dado Marino (Hawaii)

1. Yoshio Shirai (Japan)
2. Tanny Campo (Philippines)
3. Teddy Gardner (England)
4. Terry Allen (England)
5. Vic Herman (Scotland)
6. Louis Skena (France)
7. Taffy Hancock (Australia)
8. Charley Bohbot (Morocco)
9. Jimmy Pearce (England)
10. Juan Diaz (Panama)

Yet the Boston Strong Boy, fat, untrained, a washed-up pugilist with his punch and power dissipated, could draw all the cheers in his moment of disaster by declaring, "If I had to get licked, I'm glad it was by an American. Yours truly, John L. Sullivan."

***

James J. Corbett, though he typified the newfangled science of the ring with his impeccable physical condition, his agile footwork, his weaving, dodging, side-stepping boxing cleverness, did not win the public in the same measure. In fact, thousands detested him for the dude he was, bringing grace and courtliness into a rough-and-ready game. Unlike Sullivan, but very like Tunney of a later day, "Gentleman Jim" did not meet all comers but carefully and astutely plotted his course to the championship and knew exactly what he wanted from it.

The ring careers of Corbett and Tunney seem to argue that calculating, shrewd fellows of high literacy who evince haughty disdain for the fight crowd may win much respect and admiration from the public, but not the ovation of hero-worshipers. Corbett the bank clerk and Tunney the shipping clerk were in boxing for what they could get out of it to improve themselves—altogether admirable, though the boxing fans react to that sort of success the way people react to the similar success of men in business.

Gentleman Jim Corbett became well-liked later on, in his bid to become the first champion to regain the title, but there was no wailing when Bob Fitzsimmons first knocked him out with the body blow which enabled boxing to discover the whereabouts of the solar plexus. For that, and his freckles, his freakish build, his extraordinary and enduring fighting qualities to a comparatively old age, his pulverizing punch and his skill, "Ruby Robert" endeared himself to the public for quite a spell.

***

Big Jim Jeffries, strong as a man could be with his outdoorsy bulk, and a tremendous hitter out of that crouch of his, was one of the popular champions, though popularity then did not bring riches with it, and the public, which loved Jeff, eventually pushed him into a hopeless assignment against the hateful Jack Johnson. For the most disliked champion and only outcast you don't have to go beyond the stevedore out of Galveston.

Tommy Burns, who got to be champion after Jeffries retired unbeaten, can be compared to Ezzard Charles, who also became accepted as champion by beating everyone around after Joe Louis retired the first time. Burns beat all who were around in his day until he met Johnson, but he left no impact on the boxing folk of his day.

***

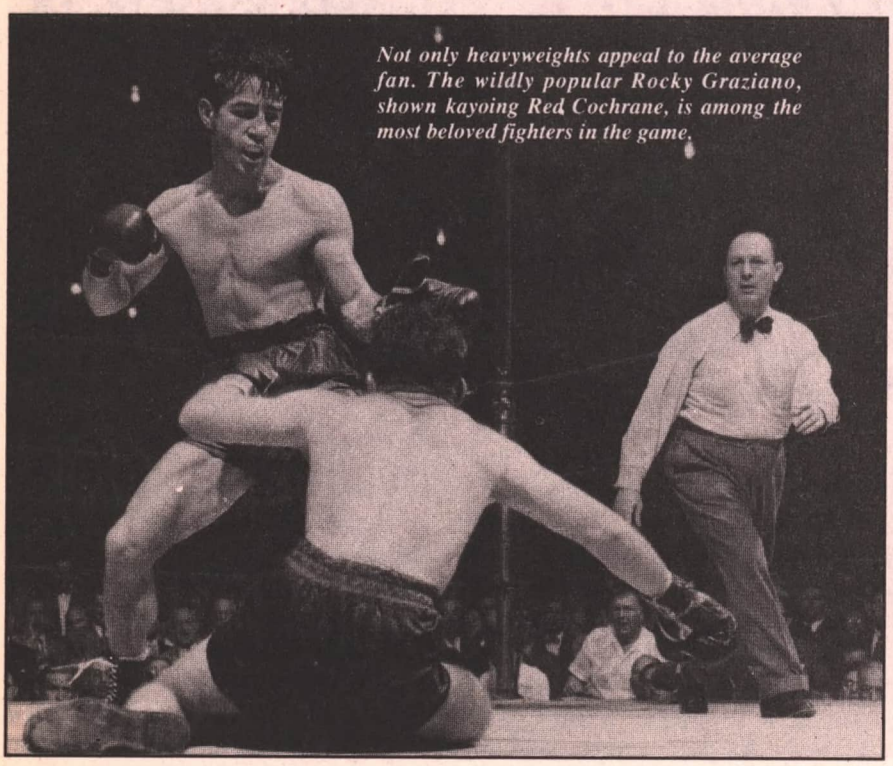
Similarly, Charles beat the best heavyweights in circulation, even beat Louis in his comeback, convinced most critics he was a competent, crafty, well-rounded champion, yet left the public unmoved by his reign. He was—and is—a quiet, mannered, well-spoken, and completely colorless individual who managed to do nothing inside or outside the ring to excite the public. Admiration for his solid qualities obviously doesn't add up to popularity among those who pay to see heavyweights fight, or even the TV audience which pays nothing beyond the purchase of the receiver, yet expects no less to be entertained and exhilarated by its heavyweight champion.

A quiet, efficient guy like Charles, employing his boxing tools to his own satisfaction, would have magnetized the fans in any era, but definitely did not magnetize them as successor to Louis. He simply didn't have, compared to the majestic bulk of the Brown Bomber, the look of a champion, which was what the man had in mind when he accosted Ezz in the street one day following Charles' victory over Louis and snorted, "So you're the heavyweight champion, humph!" He was intimating that if he had a mind to, he could have knocked Charles' block off then and there himself.

***

Dempsey, perhaps the most popular champion of our time, had to work hard for his popularity, not by pleading his cause but by letting his fists and personality fascinate the public for him. Through ill-advised machinations of his manager, he let himself be steered into a shipyard in the first World War, even

*Having gained a reputation as a draft-dodger during World War I, former heavyweight champion Jack Dempsey dramatically increased his fan appeal by serving admirably in World War II.*



*Not only heavyweights appeal to the average fan. The wildly popular Rocky Graziano, shown kayoing Red Cochrane, is among the most beloved fighters in the game.*

tographed in patent leather shoes with a sledgehammer in his hands. The nity he collected by this business lasted until the fight with Georges rpentier.

Dempsey heard the first cheers for himself in winning that one, even ough, in retrospect, it was no great feat. The cheers never slackened reafter, but grew in volume through the years and through one million-lar gate after another, up to and including the $2-million return with nney.

Dempsey's great popularity as a fighter, reaching a peak the day he lost long-count bid for recapture of the title, has been maintained ever since. ssibly the long-count injustice, though he was partly responsible for it in ing to go to the neutral corner indicated by the referee, cemented his hold is public forever. Decorated in World War II, he even made the American gion forget the mistakes of his youth. To the generation which thrilled to ck The Giant-Killer," his unbridled ferocity, and two-fisted onslaughts, he always be The Champ. He still collects royalties on his popularity.

***

Between Dempsey and Louis champions came and went, sometimes at the te of one a year, without making much of a stir. Most of them weren't round long enough as champions to become popular or unpopular. Tunney ade no effort to win the crowd. He was in boxing as a means to an end; he ot plenty and got out fast. That evidently isn't the way to the public's heart, t when it's accomplished with cold hauteur and a measure of disdain. Max er, more actor than fighter, struck wonderful poses and made boasts in the anner of John L., except he didn't make 'em good. He could have been a opular champion if he had learned his trade better or had more stomach for e ring. Beating Baer in a great upset and then putting up such a fighting fense against Louis gave Jim Braddock a spot in boxing's heart.

Just being himself and being natural all the time, a fighting champion who ave new meaning to that expression and new dignity to his role, plus a pair extremely explosive fists, gained Louis his vast following all over the map. nce you have it, as Louis has, there isn't much you can do to lose it. Getting nocked out by Marciano didn't dim the luster of his long reign or lose him is loyal public, nor even his petulance with Charles, whom he helped to own as his successor, for proving such a box office dud that Old Joe was nstrained to come back as an age-rusted and faded warrior.

***

There have been numerous other fighters in the lighter divisions who ew great popularity from the days of the original Jack Dempsey the nparail, who was invincible for 10 years and for whom men wept when he as beaten. For all his acclaim as the greatest fighter, pound for pound, in his ay, Sugar Ray Robinson missed the boat in authentic popular appeal here, t he has won the hearts of the French somehow because he knocked out that ain, Jake LaMotta, and they love him for it. In his own country, Sugar Ray es the public know at all times that he is in a hard, cruel sport and he is pable of looking after his own interests, thank you.

Despite continuous attempts from various sources to blacken Rocky raziano, the former middleweight champion has managed to hold on as a opular ring figure, which indicates the public is primarily interested in the way ocky throws those right hands of his. They love Rocky wherever he goes.

LaMotta, who came up with Rocky, is under no illusions that they love im anywhere except in Detroit, maybe. He once plaintively asserted, ollowing his ascension to the middleweight throne, that, having the title, he ould now like to win the public's favor.

But Jake discovered there's no fool-proof formula for winning that opularity.

The public goes for a fighter on its own terms. ■

## THE RING, June 1952

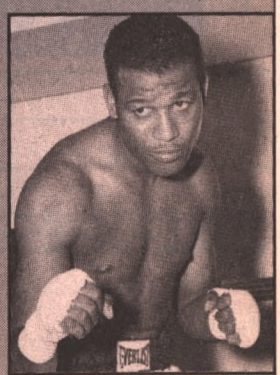
***The Cover:*** Is world welterweight champion Kid Gavilan ducking Billy Graham? The rivals' third meeting, a controversial points win for Gavilan, took place in August 1951. Despite losing that bout, Graham remains the top contender.

***The College Kid:*** Michigan State graduate Chuck Davey is the hottest welterweight in the world. The southpaw's 31st consecutive victory was an impressive stoppage of former lightweight king Ike Williams. As an amateur, Davey won 93 of 94 bouts. He's currently rated ninth by THE RING.

***Sugar And The Rock:*** THE RING Publisher Nat Fleischer reports from ringside at Chicago Stadium, where middleweight king Sugar Ray Robinson retains the crown by thrilling third-round kayo of former titlist Rocky Graziano. Fleischer describes the bout as "arousing far more interest than any championship staged in this neck of the woods other than the Dempsey-Tunney return engagement."

***East Side, West Side:*** Jersey Jones bemoans the fact that New York City is no longer producing a significant number of outstanding fighters. Jones describes Billy Graham (pictured) and Paddy DeMarco as "the only born-and-bred New Yorkers currently active in the sock market who could be conceded something better than outside chances of becoming world champions."

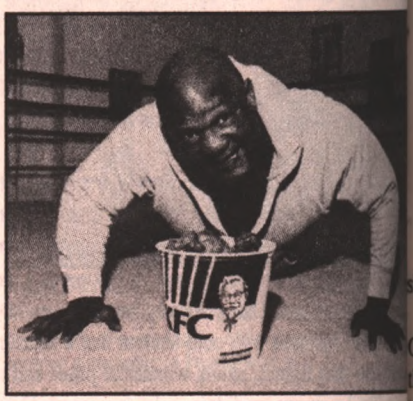
***Fighter Of The Month:*** Middleweight king Sugar Ray Robinson is a strong choice based on his dramatic kayo of Rocky Graziano. Runner-up is lightweight champion Jimmy Carter, who kept the crown by topping Lauro Salas.



# Looking Ahead

By Steve Farhood

## BIG GEORGE'S BIG FAREWELL




*Foreman: Not chicken to fight*

As we went to press, Top Rank was in the early stages of planning a pay-per-view card for May 21. The site: the Astrodome in Houston. The occasion: George Foreman's last fight. In appears certain that Big George, a points loser to Tommy Morrison last June, isn't going to secure one last try at the world title. But he wants to go out a winner, so ...

Look for Foreman, 45, to feast on another turkey. Two potential opponents are unbeaten but untested New Yorker Lou Savarese and South Africa's Frans Botha. Also on the star-studded card—if it all comes together—would be IBF cruiserweight champion Al Cole defending against Thomas Hearns, IBF super middleweight champion James Toney vs. former light heavyweight titlist Prince Charles Williams, and a defense by WBC-IBF junior flyweight champion Michi Carbajal.

In other words, Foreman's fight would be the least interesting of the bunch.

*Norris wants Brown again*

## THE NORRIS CHORUS: ONE MORE TIME

Every champion reacts differently to failure. After Terry Norris l the WBC super welterweight crown to Simon Brown in December, approached manager Joe Sayatovich in his dressing room and anxiou asked, "When can I fight him again? Can I fight him again in Februar

Sayatovich explained that Norris, a fourth-round kayo victim, wo be placed under medical suspension. That aside, a tuneup might be ne Then ...

"He wants Simon again because he knows he can beat him, knows he fought a dumb fight," said Sayatovich. "We're looking couple of tuneups, then a rematch in the summer. Don [King] think rematch is a giant fight. Simon by himself won't attract flies; beat Terry, he doesn't have options."

Sayatovich is right; there isn't a big-name challenger in the WBC top 10. Unless something crazy happens before the summer, Brow Norris II is a given.

## LISTEN UP...

Manager Jack Dell is hoping to sign IBF junior welterweight champion **Charles Murray** for a defense agai streaking **Zack Padilla**. Could be among the best fights of '94. When asked about a unification match agai WBC champion **Julio Cesar Chavez**, Dell shook his head and muttered, "Don King." No further explanation necessary ... WBC heavyweight champion **Lennox Lewis** will defend against once-beaten powerpuncher Ph **Jackson**, 29-1 (27), on either May 6 or May 14. The site will be either Reno or Atlantic City. Jackson, a kayo lo to **Razor Ruddock** in October 1992, is rated fifth by the WBC.

# Now Every Boxing Fan Can Afford A Ringside Seat

**FREE!!** Replica of the first issue of THE RING dated February 1922

With a subscription to *The Ring*, you'll be front row ringside for all the boxing action from around the world.

No other boxing magazine can claim the title "The Bible of Boxing" or bring you the fight game like *The Ring*. From the first issue, back in 1922, to the present, *The Ring* has been providing the definitive word on the events that make boxing history.

*The Ring* has improved its format to provide more color and more features, combining the best in up-to-the minute coverage of today's boxing action with warm remembrances of yesteryear. The result is a publication that bridges the generations of fans and keeps *The Ring* the undisputed champion of boxing magazines.

Subscribe today and receive a tremendous discount off the newsstand price—and as a bonus for subscribing for one year or more—receive an exact replica of the very first issue of *The Ring*, dated February 1922—a $9.95 value—absolutely FREE with your subscription.

## Here's what you'll find in each issue:

**Complete coverage** by boxing's best writers and photographers on the fights, fighters, and personalities that make boxing the most electrifying sport. Plus...

**Informative features:** New Faces...Round One...Come Out Writing...Battle Of The Legends...Looking Ahead

**Columns** by renowned boxing writers Steve Farhood and Jeff Ryan

**Collector's Centerfold:** Photos taken by boxing's top photographers or a classic *Ring* painting, suitable for framing

**The Ring's Top 10 ratings** in 16 weight classes, plus the "pound for pound best" and the records of all ranked fighters

**The Ring Classic:** A selected story from *The Ring's* 71-year-old archives, including *The Ring* ratings for that year and a summary of the issue in which the story appeared

**Time Capsules:** Unique photos with detailed captions (selected and written by Publisher Stanley Weston) from *The Ring's* library of more than three million negatives

**(Please check one)**

☐ I would like to subscribe for six issues and have enclosed $15.

☐ I would like a one year's subscription. I have enclosed $30 with the understanding that I will receive **two free issues** (that's 14 monthly issues) in addition to a **free replica issue of the first *Ring*.**

☐ I would like a two year's subscription. I have enclosed $60 with the understanding that I will receive **six free issues** (that's 30 monthly issues) in addition to a **free replica issue of the first *Ring*.**

☐ NEW ☐ RENEWAL

Please specify method of payment:
(Pennsylvania residents add 6% sales tax)

☐ Check or money order (enclosed and payable to London Publishing Co.)

☐ VISA # _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

☐ MasterCard # _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

Expiration Date: ___/___
MO/YR

Name _____

Address _____ Apt. _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

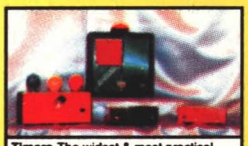
*(Price offer good in U.S. and Canada only. All other countries: $19.80 for six issues ($25.50 airmail), $39.60 for one year ($51 airmail), $79.20 for two years ($102 airmail). International money order in U.S. funds for all orders outside the U.S. Please allow up to eight weeks before receiving first issue.*

**SEND TO:**

**THE RING**
**P.O. Box 910**
**Fort Washington, PA 19034**

1375/05-93

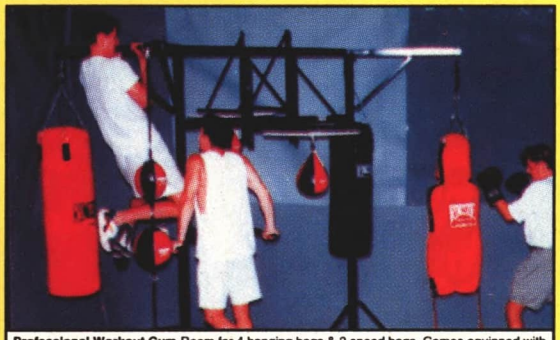
# BECAUSE NO OTHER SPORT CONDITIONS & TONES THE BODY LIKE BOXING, RINGSIDE INTRODUCES OUR EXECUTIVE BOXING LINE. (913) 888-1719



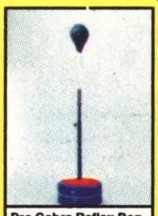
**Timers**-The widest & most practical selection of timers available. Call for details on interval training timers.

**Computer Punchcounter**-Devel... on the heavybag, while computi... & accessing a punch power rati...

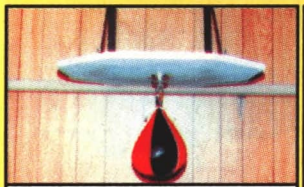
**Exact Target Bag**-The most realistic bag ever made! Head perfect for hooks & uppercuts. Available filled only. Must be prepaid. **#ET $139.** Add $5 to shipping charge at bottom of page.



**Professional Workout Gym**-Room for 4 hanging bags & 2 speed bags. Comes equipped with 2 pull-up bars & a dip bar. **#PWG $399.** Add $50 to shipping charge at bottom of page.



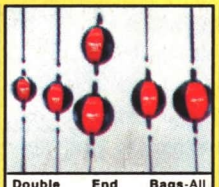
**Pro Cobra Reflex Bag**-Super fast spring action for the ultimate in hand to eye coordination training. Ideal for teaching counter punching and slipping. Easy to move and assemble. **#CRB-1** (filled base) **$110. #CRBU-1** (unfilled base) **$90.**



**Adjustable Speed Bag Platform**-Great for home or gym. **#TWAP $42. Pro Swivel**-Super fast double action bearing. **#PS $16. Speedbags**-Triple stitched, five great sizes.Two new larger sizes for beginners. Call for sizes & prices.

**Ringside Conditioning Video**-This new tape links the science of conditioning to the knowledge of boxing skills as taught by renowned exercise physiologist Dr. Tom Virgets. Covers all phases of conditioning & training. **#VIRG $25.**

**Ringside Training Video**-Tape covers every aspect of training from the first day in the gym to your first title fight. Explains conditioning, training, & tactic techniques in complete detail. **#RTV $12.95.** No refunds. Exchanges for defective tapes only.



**Double End Bags**-All leather.Cables included. Reg. size **#DEB, Small #DEB-1,Peanut #DEB-2, Mini Pro #DEB-3 $36,** Filled **#FDEB $44,** Double Double End Bag **#DDEB $70.**

**Super Bag Gloves**-The best bag gloves in the world! 12oz. Hook & Loop closure. Excellent wrist support. **#SBG-M $40, #SBG-L $42, #SBG-XL $46.** Now available in solid black.

**No Foul Protector**-Used by amateur ... **$45.** No hip style, **#RPNF-1 $40,** Mexic... **2 $38. #GAP $12.** Sizes S,M,L,XL

**Fun Gloves**-Revolutionary oversized, overstuffed gloves that bring the fun back into sparring. Great for executive boxing. **#FG $139.** Prices are for set of 4 gloves. Pairs available at half the set price.

# YOU GET ALL OF THE CONDITIONING BENEFITS OF BOXING WITH OR WITHOUT THE CONTACT.

**Facesaver Headguard**-Protects ... Excellent fit & visibility. Lightweight ... boxer with bad nose or executive ... fits all. **#FSH $90.**

**Workout Apparel**-The largest selection of boxing workout apparel available anywhere. Call for more information.

**Sparring Gloves**-The best. Lace up **#RP-16oz. $125.** Elastic wrist **#RP-16E $130.** Sleek mexican style **#RP-16M $118.** Prices are for sets of four gloves. Pairs available at half the set price. Also, available in 14 & 18 oz. sizes.

**Handwraps**-Extra long(170") hook & loop closure. **Red #HW $4.25.** Mexican style(180") slightly elastic, **Gold #MHW $5.00.** Junior (120") for smaller hands. **Blue #JRHW $3.75.** Knuckle Guards **#KG $7.**

**Mouthpieces**-Black Beauty forms to fit each tooth. **#BBMP $3.99.** Single mouthpiece just boil & bite. **#801 80¢.** Double mouthpiece protects top & bottom teeth. **#799 $2.** Mouthpiece Safe keeps mouthpiece clean in gym bag. **#MS $3.**

**Heavybags**-The most ... of heavybags anywhere! ... soft foam design to help ... Filled or unfilled. Call or w... Available in canvas, nylon, ...

# RINGSIDE - THE SAFEST WAY TO SPAR!

**ORDER TODAY!**

**Ringside Products**
**P.O. Box 14171**
**Lenexa, KS 66285-4171**
*Or Just Call*
**(913) 888-1719**
*In Canada Call*
**Russ Anber**
**(514) 271-2584**

**Free!!**
Receive a Free Boxing Glove Keyring with Every Order! This is a Must for Every Boxer!

We accept Visa, MasterCard, Prepaid or C.O.D. orders. Immediate shipping on all orders unless paid by personal/business check. (Some items require extra shipping. Call for details.)

**FREE!!**
Our Huge Catalog With Over 1,000 Boxing Items! Just Call or Write for Your Free Copy!

| If Order Is |
|---|
| 0.00 to 49.99 |
| 50.00 to 99.99 |
| 100.00 to 149.99 |
| 150.00 to 249.99 |
| 250.00 to 499.99 |
| 500.00 to 999.99 |
| 1000.00 & up |
| (C.O.D. Orders Add ... |

**Filled and free standing heavybags must be prepaid.**
**Custom items must be prepaid. Prices subject to change without notice.**